



THE TIMES Tomorrow

East looks West
The youth
quake cracking
the Eastern block



London line
Suzy Menkes on how
patterns and prints
dominated London
fashion week
Acid test
Why chemical
warfare can't
be left out of
the arms equation
On the ball
In World Cup week,
Brian Glanville
looks at football
from the
international perspective

Portfolio

Instead of going to Ascot on Saturday, Mr Stanley Norman, of Chesham Place, Chelsea, decided to stay at home and check his Portfolio card. He turned out to be the only weekly winner, and staying indoors thus earned him £20,000. The daily prize of £2,000 was shared by three readers. They were Mr Thomas Forster, of Strauss Road, Chislehurst; Mrs Joyce Chubb, of Seaborn Road, Croydon; and Mr Eric Foley, of Dalberg Road, London SW2. Portfolio list, page 18. Rules and how to play, back page information service.

Ogarkov gets west front job

Marshal Nikolai Ogarkov, recently replaced as Soviet Chief of Staff, has been transferred to a command in the western Soviet Union, a top Politburo member said. "Marshal Ogarkov commands the Soviet Union's largest western forces," Mr Grigory Romanov said. The marshal would control Warsaw Pact forces throughout East Europe and in the western theatre in time of war. East Berlin meeting, page 4

Mondale boost

Mr Walter Mondale's success in his television debate with President Reagan has given him a new ebullence and brought out huge crowds of supporters for his campaign appearances. Page 6

Going it alone

Figures published by the Manpower Services Commission disclose a considerable increase in the number of people becoming self-employed. Page 4

Iceland hope

The Iceland Government and union officials are to meet today to discuss a solution to the Civil Service strike which has crippled the country for the last two weeks. Page 5

Secreto retired

Secreto, the winner of the Epsom Derby has broken a bone in a foot and will not race again. He will be retired to stud in the United States. Page 25

Withe recalled

Bobby Robson, the England manager, has called Peter Withe, the experienced Aston Villa forward, into his squad for the World Cup qualifying match against Finland at Wembley on Wednesday. Page 22

Leader page, 15

Letters: On Brighton bomb, from Lord Lauderdale; training of engineers, from Mr J. Diggins; cancer research, from Mr D. P. Burdett, FRS.

Leading articles: President Reagan's age, Child Abduction Act, Radio Free Europe

Features, pages 10, 11, 14
Enoch Powell decodes the message of the Brighton bomb; if women are allowed into the pulpit; design leaving the doldrums; Spectrum: Cracks in the Warsaw Pact. Monday page: Mum to 27

Obituary, page 16

Mr Duncan MacGregor
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Are they still a good investment?
A Special Report offers some answers

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Whitehall launches inquiry into Cabinet security

● A top-level Whitehall committee will be formed to examine the Brighton bombing and how security can be improved.
● Brighton seafloor returned almost to normal, as the fourth and last body was removed from the Grand Hotel and police searched for more forensic science evidence.

● The Chief Constable of Sussex said that a general warning of a possible IRA campaign went to all police forces 24 hours before the bombing. Page 2
● The attack was intended to kill the Cabinet and bring a political crisis leading to British withdrawal from Northern Ireland, Provisional Sinn Féin said. Page 2

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

With a high-level Whitehall committee expected to be established today to study the implications of the security failure which imperilled the Cabinet in the Brighton IRA bomb attack, Mr Edward Heath yesterday called for a stronger drive against terrorism and improved arrangements to protect politicians.

The former prime minister stated: "We have to accept that there must be some restrictions if we are going to protect society. I do not believe those restrictions are damaging to freedom. We must not allow ourselves to say that there are risks, and bound to be risks, and then forget to do anything about them."

The internal Whitehall review, which will report directly to ministers, is expected to involve officials from the Home Office, the Ministry of Defence and the Northern Ireland Office.

It is expected to be far beyond the police investigation into Friday's outrage, covering security and intelligence issues and methods of ensuring better protection for ministers. The wisdom of the whole cabinet staying under one roof during party conferences seems certain to be studied.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, who spent the weekend at Chequers, went to church yesterday in the Buckinghamshire village of Eylesham, amid the tightest security. She was reported by others who attended the service to be pale and visibly upset.

The Prime Minister has been making constant inquiries about those injured in the

attack on the Grand Hotel, including Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, and his wife, and Mr John Wakeham, the chief whip.

Arrangements have been made for handling the ministers' duties in their absence. Mr Paul Channon, the Minister for Trade, will take over Mr Tebbit's most important duties, although the speech he had planned to make on Wednesday about the Government's proposals for restructuring the City

will be delivered by Mr Alexander Fletcher, the Minister for Corporate and Consumer Affairs. Other tasks will be shared between Mr Tebbit's seven ministerial colleagues.

Mr John Cope, the deputy chief whip, is to take over temporarily from Mr Wakeham in a period which includes the ending of the present parliamentary session, and the opening of the new one on November 6, after which the Commons will debate over several days the contents of the Queen's speech.

Mr Heath, who has himself been the target of IRA action, made a striking call for more to be done to combat terrorism.

In an interview on BBC radio's *World This Week* he said: "We have got to do much more to outwit these people. That is going to require much more vigilance from all of us. It will require more money to be



The Prime Minister, visibly upset, arriving for a church service yesterday with her husband (Photograph: Peter Triemvor)

Injured Tebbit 'chirpy as ever' and telling good jokes

From Rupert Morris, Brighton

Of Mrs Joan Shattock, wife of Mr Gordon Shattock, chairman of the Western Area Conservative Party, Mr Shattock left the Royal Sussex Hospital by the back entrance at lunchtime yesterday.

Soon afterwards, Mr Norman Tebbit, Employment Secretary, was wheeled in his bed for a long talk with his wife Margaret whose condition was described yesterday as stable but poorly.

Mrs Tebbit has no feeling below the neck, and doctors expect to know within the next two days whether she will be permanently paralysed.

Mr Simon Strachan, the hospital spokesman said she was cheerful and had enjoyed her husband's visit.

Mr Tebbit had been treated earlier for broken ribs and a wound in his side and spent a comfortable day with his

brother Peter, his daughter Alison and her husband.

Mr John Gummer, the Conservative Party Chairman was in and out of the hospital wards yesterday. He said Mr Tebbit was "as chirpy as ever" and "telling a good series of jokes."

Mr Wakeham, the Government Chief Whip, was under anaesthetic for much of the day having the dressing changed on his serious leg wounds. His wife Roberta was killed in the explosion.

Of those still detained at the Royal Sussex Hospital yesterday afternoon, Mr Donald Maclean, who occupied the room in which the bomb was thought to have been placed, was "sitting up and resting" having been visited by his daughter from Cyprus. His wife Mariel was "sleepy" but comfortable.

Owen and Hattersley put focus on jobs

By Our Political Reporter

Dr David Owen, the Social Democratic Party leader, yesterday put forward a national plan for jobs aimed at winning bipartisan support for a programme to take a million out of the dole queue in two years.

His proposals, costing £2,900m and involving a radical redrawing of the National Insurance scheme in order to encourage firms to take on more low-skilled workers, were published on the day that Mr Roy Hattersley, the shadow chancellor of the exchequer, made an important speech in which he set out the constraints facing the next

Labour Government in its attempts to achieve a major reduction in unemployment, and outlined policies for overcoming them.

Mr Hattersley whose speech was part of the leadership's continuing attempt to inject a "new realism" into the presentation of the party's economic policies, spoke of the need for a high profit economy and for an agreement with the trade unions on planning incomes.

Both contributions were confirmation that unemployment is set to dominate the post-conference political agenda.

Dr Owen's approach was unusual in that instead of advancing Alliance policies he put forward proposals which he said, the Government could be persuaded and coaxed to implement. It was a national jobs plan "which bishops and bankers, stockbrokers and steelworkers can endorse."

His three-pronged approach, outlined to the SDP Welsh council in Carmarthen, involves an emergency jobs programme aimed at the long-term unemployed, the young unemployed and married women, a selective capital investment scheme and

the promotion of innovation and skill training.

At the centre of it was his plan to restructure National Insurance contributions, which he said could be achieved without net loss to the Treasury. The contribution would consist of a higher percentage rate of tax on earnings, less a credit for each worker.

An increase from 10 per cent to 30 per cent in the rate would finance a per worker credit £36, or 20 per cent of the average wage of £180. As a result firms would have an incentive to

hire more workers. Continued on back page, col 6

Prince Henry takes his picture call

Prince Henry Charles Albert David, third in line to the Throne, makes his first public appearance in a series of studies taken at Kensington Palace by his great-nunc, Lord Snowdon.

The pictures were taken when Prince Henry was 20 days old. He is perceived to have his father's ears and his mother's eyes. He has, however, a quieter temperament than his elder brother Prince William, now aged 2, holding his younger brother.

Prince Henry is pictured wearing a cotton baby gown with frilled cuffs, while his brother wears a hand-me-down cream blouse worn by his father when he was the same age.

Prince Henry, who briefly fell asleep during the hour-long photo session, now weighs 8lb 4oz, a gain of 1lb 6oz on his birth weight. His first official engagement will be his own christening, expected to take place next month at about the time of his father's birthday on November 14.

Another photograph, page 3

Three obstacles to peace in the pits

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Peace talks aimed at ending the miners' strike reopen this evening amid cautious optimism that agreement on long-term criteria for colliery closures may be in sight.

But three stumbling blocks remain in the way of a solution to the conflict, which today goes into its third second week, and the miners have entered new proposals for an expanding coal industry.

The three NUM demands that may cause the talks to break down are withdrawal of the National Coal Board's March 6 pit closure programme; unconditional guarantees for the future operation of five named coal mines; and an amnesty for more than 200 pit men sacked for various offences since the dispute began.

In the 100 hours of peace talks, spread over several months these issues have not been resolved and leaders of the NUM are expected to put renewed pressure on Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman of the coal board, to return to those issues.

On the fourth day of negotiations in the latest efforts to end the strike, the two sides will return tonight to a new formula for pit closures drawn up by officials of the conciliation service, Acas, with amendments from the NUM and the pit deputies' union, Nacods.

It would introduce for the first time in the industry an independent appeal procedure.

Miners' leaders have already made substantial inroads into

the coal board's bargaining position over the past few days, but the board retains the final say on pit closures under the draft settlement now being discussed.

The board wants colliery closures to be discussed in accordance with the principles of "Fit for Coal", while the miners want any discussion and investigation of the future of coal mines to be conducted "in line with the Plan for Coal" under the colliery review procedure.

That superficial difference in the wording masks a wide gap between the parties. The miners want all discussion on the future of the industry to take place within the confines of the 1974 blueprint, while the board wants to adhere only to the general principles of a plan which it now considers to be outdated.

The issue that started the strike, the board's requirement that 4m tonnes of capacity must be taken out in the current financial year, involving the closure of 20 pits and the loss of 20,000 jobs, remains as far from settlement as when the strike began.

Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the NUM, has until some time today an opportunity to appear in the High Court to explain why he should not be fined £1,000 and his union £200,000 for contempt of court orders not to continue treating the strike as official.

Cost dilemma, page 2

MP meets Durban dissidents

From Michael Horsley, Durban

The Labour Party's foreign affairs spokesman, Mr Donald Anderson, last night took part in a prayer service in the British Consulate here with the three anti-apartheid campaigners who have been sheltering from the South African security police since September 13.

Mr Anderson, a Methodist lay preacher, said it had been a "spiritually refreshing experience."

JOHANNESBURG: Riot police patrolled black townships after crowds had set beer-halls alight, stoned government offices, set fire to vehicles and shops, and stoned police (Reuter reports).

Visit welcomed, page 6

Moscow deploys sea and air cruise

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Mr Grigory Romanov, a senior Politburo member and a possible successor to President Chernenko, said yesterday that Moscow was ready for negotiations with the United States. But diplomacy in Moscow said Russia's weekend announcement that it was deploying air- and sea-launched long-range cruise missiles would make a return to the negotiating table more complicated.

The Russians have already stationed "rockets" in Eastern Europe, and according to Washington have increased their SS20s in European Russia - although Moscow last Friday denied this allegation after a Nato meeting at Stresa in Italy.

Speaking in Helsinki, Mr Romanov blamed the collapse of the Geneva arms talks last November on the United States, and accused Washington of aggravating world tensions. But he added: "At the same time the Soviet Union affirms that it is still ready to negotiate with the United States and conduct a dialogue on the basic problems of our time."

Talks should be based on "the principles of equality and mutual security," Mr Romanov said - a formula used by Mr Chernenko and repeated by the Politburo in a statement after Mr Andrei Gromyko's recent talks with Mr Reagan.

Mr Romanov, aged 61, was addressing a meeting marking the fortieth anniversary of the armistice which ended the winter war between Russia and Finland. Normally considered a tough, rough-edged hardliner, Mr Romanov is General Committee secretary responsible for the defence industries. He is the chief Politburo rival of Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, aged 53, the Kremlin number two.

He did not indicate where a Soviet-American dialogue might begin, but underlined the importance of demilitarizing outer space. Soviet officials have suggested, following the Reagan-Gromyko talks, that an American agreement to a moratorium on space weapons testing might lead to "star wars" talks.

Yesterday *Pravda* and *Red Star* carried a Defence Ministry announcement that Russia had begun to deploy its long-range cruise missiles in submarines and strategic bombers "to counter the growing threat from the United States."

The statement said America had carried out a crash programme of massive deployments.

WASHINGTON: The Reagan Administration said yesterday it was not surprised by the announcement that the Soviet Union had begun deploying long-range cruise missiles on strategic bombers and submarines and urged Moscow to resume negotiations on offensive nuclear weapons (Nicholas Ashford writes).

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Colour Catalogues - Ask for details

Security alert sent to police before bombing in Brighton

By Stewart Tessler, Crime Reporter

A security alert warning that the Provisional IRA might be about to start a campaign in Britain was sent to police forces, including Sussex, just more than 24 hours before the Grand Hotel bombing. Mr Roger Birch, chief constable of Sussex, said yesterday.

But he denied it was anything more than a low-key warning which did not specify any targets and which he had preempted by security far tighter than such an alert required.

The bombing means that a new and much more urgent alert will have gone out to all police because the Brighton attack may, as police admitted yesterday, have been the first blast in an autumn campaign. A team of bombers could be operating with fresh targets in mind between now and Christmas. In the past, the targets have ranged from military sites to shopping streets.

It was also disclosed that the single 20lb bomb that devastated the hotel could have been left for weeks hidden in its fabric and almost undetectable without extensive searching.

Mr Birch, describing the alert, which was sent on Wednesday night (the bomb exploded a second after 2.54am on Friday) said: "Nothing in the message pointed to any specific type of threat or pointed to Brighton. Our plans involved security precautions on a vastly more advanced scale than the alert."

The message was sent by the Special Branch at Scotland Yard and was based on intelligence assessments from sources such as the Special Branch in Northern Ireland, the Garda Síochána and the security service, MI5. Mr Birch said the alert was the result of a general assessment.

The warning is based on a classification which uses different colours to indicate the strength of the warning and the precision of the intelligence. The alert on Wednesday was binned black alpha and a senior Sussex police source said that it was of the lowest alert on the scale.

The same source said the alert was issued because intelligence and police analysts felt there was a strong chance the IRA might try to strike on the mainland and regain some initiative after recent blows such as the arms cache found on a vessel last month.

If that is the case the bomb may have been placed in the

Grand Hotel where the Prime Minister and her Cabinet colleagues were staying last week, quite recently. But Commander William Huckleby, of the Yard's anti-terrorist branch, said yesterday that the IRA had a capacity to plant bombs with electronic timing mechanisms that could be set up to a month in advance. He added that if a microchip was changed the timing could be even longer.

As his men worked 90 ft above the seafront in the wreckage of the hotel, Mr Huckleby said the device, about the size of a briefcase, was thought to have been hidden behind the tiling in the bathroom of room 628 or 629 on the sixth floor. The two bathrooms adjoin each other.

Mr Huckleby said the device, powered by long-life batteries, was inserted by water cisterns through maintenance panels in the tiling.

As Mr Huckleby and Mr Birch spoke to reporters, specialists and forensic scientists from Mr Huckleby's branch in London were at work in the wreckage of the hotel for the third day removing tub after tub of debris for examination.

Mr Birch said that the body of Mrs Jean Shattock, wife of the chairman of the Conservative Party's Western Counties area, had been found and identified by jewelry on the body. Mrs Shattock was in room 628 and she was found somewhere else on the sixth floor, having been blown some distance by the blast.

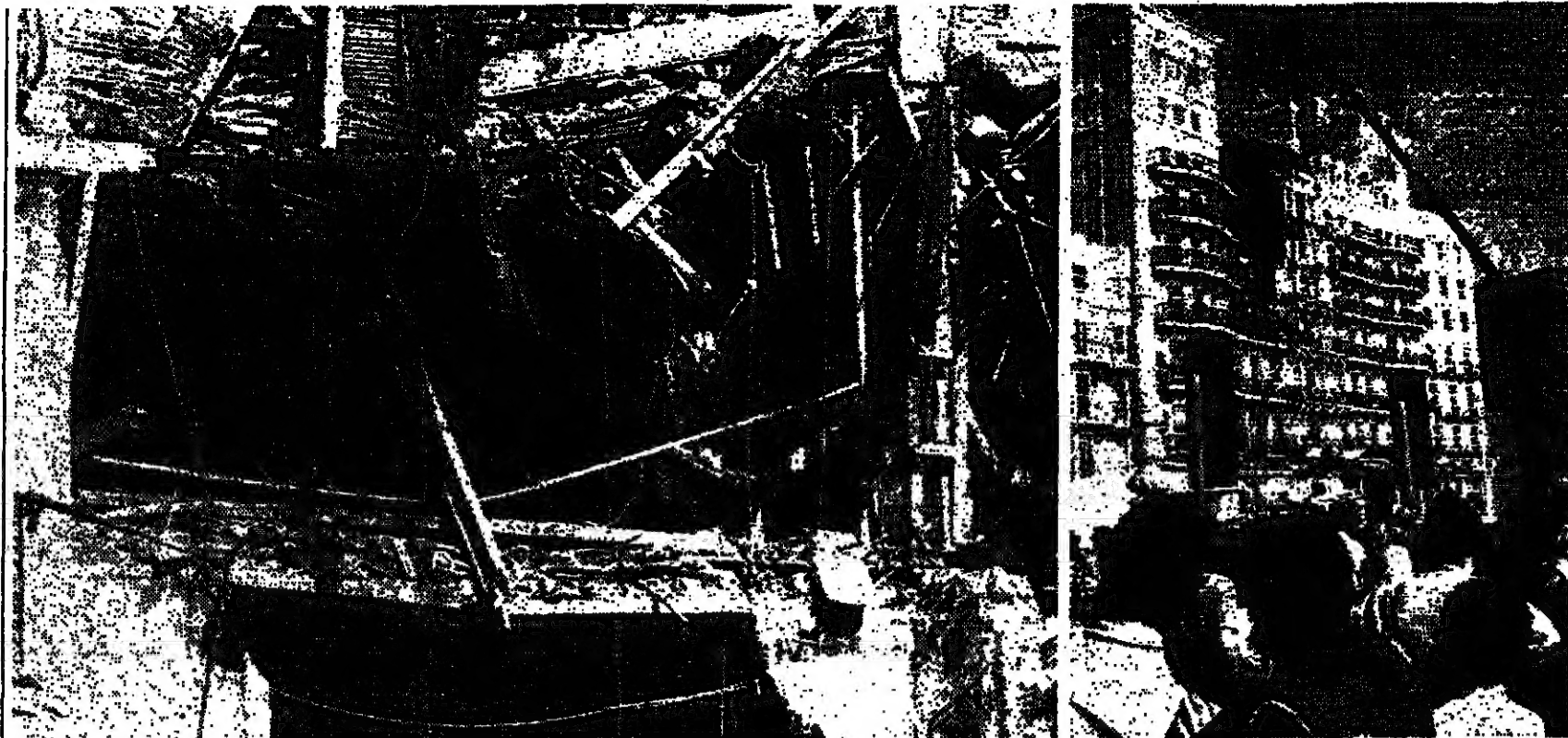
Last night Sussex police were still questioning two men arrested at the weekend but both are said to be unconnected in any way with the bombing.

One man was arrested at Liverpool as he was about to board an aircraft to Dublin. The second arrested in Brighton after the first was brought there for questioning.

Highly accurate long-delay micro electronic bomb fuses, one of which is thought to have triggered the Brighton bomb and which were described as a new development by Commander Huckleby, have been in IRA hands for almost eight years (our Belfast Correspondent writes).

The first were recovered by the Army in Northern Ireland in November, 1976, but they were not used operationally until July 29, 1977, when one was found attached to a bomb in a lavatory at the New University of Ulster.

Enoch Powell, page 14 Letters, page 15.



Operation clear-up: Workers sifting the debris on the balcony of the Grand Hotel in Brighton yesterday and (right) crowds watching the operation (Photographs: John Voss).



The dead (from left): Sir Anthony Berry; Mr Eric Taylor; Mrs Jean Shattock and Mrs Roberta Wakeham.

Two women among the dead

By Colin Hughes

The four killed in the Brighton bomb were: Sir Anthony Berry, aged 59, MP for Enfield, Southgate, since 1964 and a former deputy chief whip.

A son of Lord Kemsley, the newspaper proprietor, Sir Anthony worked on the *Sunday Chronicle* and was assistant editor of *The Sunday Times*. He was Comptroller of the Royal Household from 1981-83, and was knighted in July last year.

Mrs (Anne) Roberta Wakeham, aged 45, wife of Mr John Wakeham, the Government Chief

Whip and MP for Colchester South and Maldon, Essex.

They married in 1965, before which she worked as a clerical assistant in the Air Ministry. The couple have two sons, Jonathan, aged 11, and Benedict, aged 9.

Mr Eric Taylor, aged 54, chairman of North-West Area Conservatives, worked as a manager for Control Data Marketing and lived in Dunsford, Lancashire.

Mrs Jean Shattock, wife of Mr Gordon Shattock, the chairman of Western Area Conservatives.

Days of anxiety for injured victims

By Our Medical Correspondent

Anxiety about severely injured bomb victims will continue for two or three days.

Extensive tissue damage from crush injuries always endangers kidney function. Renal failure was the frequent cause of deaths among casualties after wartime raids. But so far renal function has been maintained in the Brighton victims and as each day passes, the chance of renal failure recedes.

The full extent of permanent damage from injury to the spinal cord is difficult to

estimate immediately, and there are always several watching days.

If after 48 hours, when initial swelling has started to subside, there is no voluntary movement, neurologists would be seriously worried.

In Mrs Norman Tebbit's case, it is reported that there is some voluntary movement, so her spinal cord has not been completely severed. In cases of this sort improvement will continue for many months.

CND deplores criticism after explosion

The National Council of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, meeting in London at the weekend, yesterday deplored the Brighton bombing and the use made of it to attack CND during the closing sessions of the Conservative Party conference (Pat Healy writes).

CND deplored the use of violence in any circumstances and was committed to non-violent direct action. It condemned the bomb attack on the Conservative Party in Brighton and extended sympathy to the victims.

Aim was withdrawal from Ulster

From Richard Ford, Belfast

The Provisional IRA bomb attack at Brighton was intended to lead to the withdrawal of British forces from Northern Ireland by killing the Cabinet and precipitating a security and political crisis.

IRA strategists believed that the death of Mrs Margaret Thatcher and senior ministers would seriously damage Anglo-Irish relations and lead to a new approach in British political circles.

Mr Danny Morrison, publicity director of Sinn Féin, said that he presumed his party's military wing still intended to attack "prestige" targets in Britain.

Insisting that he had no idea of the Provisional IRA's plans, Mr Morrison said that the military wing would say their tactic was working and that they could move Mrs Thatcher. He thought they had set off the bomb in the middle of the night because people in the building would be asleep and most working-class people, such as maids, would not be in the hotel.

Mr Morrison admitted that he did not think the Provisional IRA would get a similar opportunity again, as he did not expect Conservative ministers to stay under the same roof.

The Provisionals believed that in the wake of the Prime Minister's death both London and Dublin would have outlawed Provisional Sinn Féin. Interment without trial would have been introduced and leading members of the political wing arrested, to appease outraged British public opinion.

The effect in the republic, and particularly around, would have led to British withdrawal within perhaps two years.

Active US role offered by Ferraro

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

Ms Geraldine Ferraro, the Democratic vice-presidential candidate, yesterday indicated that a Mondale-Ferraro administration would try to become more actively engaged in seeking a solution to the Northern Ireland dilemma than has been the case with the present and past United States governments.

She said during a television interview that she would favour the appointment of a special American envoy for Northern Ireland, whose role would be similar to that played by United States special envoys in the Middle East.

A vicious attack on Mrs Thatcher written in the aftermath of the Brighton bomb attack has been published in *The Hindu*, one of the most widely respected Indian newspapers. The article virtually suggests that the British Prime Minister, whom it accused of ruling like a Tsarina, brought the attack upon herself by pursuing divisive policies. (our Delhi Correspondent writes).

Threat to Felixstowe expansion

By Our Labour Reporter

An ambitious plan to double the size of the "free enterprise" docks at Felixstowe, Britain's busiest container port, may be blocked as a result of the national dock labour scheme.

To the annoyance of European Ferries, the company which owns the port, most of the land earmarked for development was discovered to be under the jurisdiction of Ipswich docks, which is covered by the Dock Labour Act, 1947. European Ferries do not operate under the dock labour scheme.

The company said yesterday that it is to seek immediate talks with the port authority at Ipswich and the Transport and General Workers' Union in an attempt to solve the problem.

But Ipswich has registered its intention to oppose the extension on conservancy and navigational grounds, and the union made it clear yesterday that if the project went ahead it would expect the operation of the new terminals to come under the dock labour scheme.

Clearly the 1,550 dockers at Felixstowe, who have seen earnings rise as a consequence of being free of regulation, will have little sympathy with the national leadership on this issue. European Ferries made an £8m pre-tax profit from the port last year.

The Suffolk port is about to embark on a £47m development, due to start next month.

The miners' strike Ministers face dilemma on cost

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Ministers are divided over whether the cost of the miners' strike should be recovered by increasing electricity charges or by cutting other public spending programmes.

Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, who is understood to be opposed to the imposition of the so-called "Scargill surcharge" sought by the Treasury, made clear yesterday that no decision had been taken on the issue.

He was replying to a letter from Mr John Lyons, general secretary of the Electrical Power Engineers' Association, who had warned him that loading the dispute's cost on

electricity bill "would inflame opinion in the industry."

The dispute about electricity seems certain to go to a meeting of the Cabinet next month. It is thought unlikely that it can be settled by the so-called "Star Chamber" committee which begins work this week to try to cut some £3,000m off departmental spending bids this year to keep the Government's spending on course.

The committee will be chaired by Lord Whitelaw and dominated by present or former Treasury ministers.

The other members are Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, Mr Peter Rees, Chief Secretary to the

Treasury, and his two predecessors, Mr John Biffert, Leader of the Commons, and Mr Leon Brittan, Home Secretary.

Its decisions and that on energy prices will be needed for the Chancellor's autumn economic statement next month. In his letter to Mr Walker Mr Lyons said that if the Government puts the cost of the dispute on the bills it would make a nonsense of its argument that closing uneconomic pits was necessary to keep down the electricity price.

Mr Walker said: "No decision of any description has been made in this area. Arthur and Solidarity, page 4

Labour's right field fifteen

By Our Political Reporter

The Labour Party's centre-right grouping, Solidarity, is to field a full slate of 15 candidates in the Shadow Cabinet elections that take place next month.

The group, led by Mr Roy Hattersley and Mr Peter Shore, is determined to recapture some of the ground lost to the "Scargillite" left at the party conference. It wants to push the leadership, through the Shadow Cabinet and the national executive committee to control what it regards as the excesses of the left and bring the party back to the election-winning centre.

The release of the slate well before the elections demonstrates a new aggressive intent on the part of the group.

The 15 candidates are Mr Peter Archer, Mr David Clark, Mr John Cunningham, Mr Terry Davis, Mr Donald Dewar, Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody, Mr Denis Healey, Mr Brynmor John, Mr Barry Jones, Mr Gerald Kaufman, Mr John Morris, Mr Giles Radice, Mr George Robertson, Mr Peter Shore, Mr John Smith, Mr Hattersley automatically has a seat in the Shadow Cabinet as deputy leader.

The Times overseas selling prices: Australia \$25, Belgium £12.50, Canada \$20, France £12.50, Germany £12.50, Greece £12.50, Hong Kong \$20, India £12.50, Italy £12.50, Japan £12.50, New Zealand \$20, Norway £12.50, Portugal £12.50, Singapore \$20, South Africa £12.50, Sweden £12.50, Switzerland £12.50, Taiwan \$20, Thailand £12.50, USA \$20, Yugoslavia £12.50.

TV-am inquiry after blast coverage

By a Staff Reporter

Independent television programme controllers will today start inquiring into how they can improve coverage of a big news event on breakfast television, in the wake of the lessons being drawn from the Brighton bombing.

The media inquiry may be paramount in determining the future of breakfast television in Britain, as the Grand Hotel bombing was the first big test of its capacity to cover an

important story breaking overnight.

Observers from the industry and ordinary viewers inevitably applaud the BBC Television *Breakfast Time* programme's ability to run effective footage from the outset, and its fortune in recording the most dramatic exclusive tape, of the rescue of Mr Norman Tebbit.

Although TV-am and ITN emphasize that they faced extraordinary transmission

difficulties and that the BBC could afford to have nearly 200 staff for their conference coverage, they admit frankly that TV-am had no crews in Brighton and only one reporter had one presenter at the time the bomb went off.

Mr Michael Hollingsworth, appointed only ten weeks ago as TV-am's programme controller, yesterday accepted that "there is a lot to learn from the Brighton coverage."

Putting on the Ritz all the way to New Zealand.

AIR NEW ZEALAND'S RITZ OF THE SKIES SERVICE TO LOS ANGELES AND NEW ZEALAND ONCE AGAIN CAME TOP IN THE LUNN POLY BUSINESS CLASS SURVEY.

'Tracking' of offenders spreads as an alternative to custody

From Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent, Eastbourne

Unemployed people, former schoolteachers and ex-police-men are being employed as "trackers" to monitor the whereabouts of burglars and violent offenders as an alternative to custody.

Tracking, which has been tried out with offenders aged 15 and 16 in Leeds, looks set to spread across the country. Mr William Weston, honorary secretary of the Association of Chief Officers of Probation, told *The Times*. But some probation officers are doubtful of its value.

The original experiment has been followed by one for adult offenders in Halifax. Now there are plans for an adult tracking scheme in Leeds and further extension of the idea to other parts of West Yorkshire. The county probation service in Hereford and Worcester also has a form of tracking for adults, according to Mr Weston, who is West Yorkshire's chief probation officer.

He said that the experiment showed the reconviction rate was a little lower than for offenders sentenced to custody.

The tracking is authorized by the court, under a supervision or probation order, and administered by the probation service. The trackers are paid about £2.50 an hour for a 16-hour

week to check three times a day on the whereabouts of their offenders. Each tracker has two. At least one of the contacts during the day will be face to face. The other two may be by telephone or with some other person who can guarantee that the offender is present at say, a school or a youth club.

The tracker works out a programme of activities which includes attendance at a probation centre three evenings a week and all day Saturday. Service to the community is part of a training programme on how to behave.

The intensity of the supervision in the community is unprecedented, Mr Weston says, but not oppressive. Offenders think it better than custody. The fact that someone in the community is taking such a constructive interest in them is making them think again about avoiding crime, he says.

But Mr Paul Senior, chairman of the probation practice committee of the National Association of Probation Officers, told *The Times* that tracking was a punitive idea originally developed in America.

His association had become increasingly aware of tracking

schemes being proposed and developed across the country, including Coventry, Scarborough and some London boroughs. Some involved the probation services, others social services agencies, he said.

The association was developing a policy of non-cooperation with tracking. It preferred to develop schemes that concentrated on helping offenders rather than surveillance. Tracking involved objectionable monitoring of behaviour and restrictions of liberty.

● The National Association of Probation Officers has committed members to industrial action with other unions to oppose rate capping and the abolition of the metropolitan county councils and the GLC. The decision, at the association's annual conference in Eastbourne, arises from concern about job losses and financing the service.

The Association of Chief Officers of Probation and the Central Council of Probation Committees are due to meet Home Office officials today. Both organizations have expressed concern about funding of the service after 1986 when the Metropolitan Councils and GLC are due to be abolished.

Inquiry into 'neglect' at nursing home Cancer fear cuts use of Pill

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

A private nursing home that has faced allegations of neglecting residents has received about £50,000 from the Department of Health and Social Security in board and lodging payments to residents during the past year, according to a junior health minister.

Mr John Patten, Under Secretary of State for Health, has asked the Blackpool Wye and Fylde Health Authority to inquire into allegations about standards of care at the Ingelhurst Nursing Home in Blackpool after former staff members complained in the summer of squalor and neglect of patients.

In a letter to Ms Harriet Harman, Labour MP for Peckham, Mr Patten says that during the past year 17 people, including a married couple, received supplementary benefit payments while staying in the £145-a-week nursing home. The payments could cover the board and lodging charge and about £10 a week in personal expenses. "On this basis", Mr Patten said, "total

benefit payments to claimants resident in the home over the past year are estimated to have been in the region of £50,000".

Mr Patten says he has asked the health authority "to look urgently" into the allegations. "We are of course concerned about the adequacy of accommodation and care" that patients supported by supplementary benefit receive.

Revised regulations covering inspection of private and voluntary nursing homes are due shortly, but Mr Harman said: "I am deeply concerned about standards of care in private nursing homes. Laws on the inspection and regulation of these private profit-making homes are totally inadequate."

She said it was ironic that the department's money was being poured into private profit-making homes at a time when health and social services for the elderly were being reduced. "This money could have been better spent by a caring health authority or by the local social services department."

Rail hero's medals go to town

Mr Christopher Clayton, a London chartered accountant, who paid £7,000 for a set of bravery medals earlier this year, is to present them to the railwayman who won them 40 years ago, where they will go on public display.

Mr Ben Gimbert, a train driver, from March in Cambridgeshire, was on the footplate of an ammunition train in 1944 when it caught fire, but he and his fireman uncoupled a blazing wagon, and pulled it away from the town centre at Soborn, Cambridgeshire, before it blew up. He was later awarded the George Cross for gallantry, the Railway Medal for bravery, the Daily Herald Order of Industrial Heroism, and in 1953, the Coronation Medal.

Mr Gimbert, who was badly hurt in the explosion, has since



Ben Gimbert: pulled wagon clear

died, and in June, his widow, Violet, aged 82, sold the medals at Sotheby's because she needed the money to move into a new home.

Mr Clayton, aged 37, of Drakefield Road, Tooting, south-west London, is to hand the medals over at a ceremony on October 24 after travelling to March in a train pulled by the locomotive which was named "Ben Gimbert GC" in the train driver's honour three years ago.

Calais offers wine gift to win back trippers

By Robin Young

Shopkeepers in Calais are offering discounts and gifts as an inducement to British day trippers in an attempt to regain cross-Channel trade lost since French authorities refused to accept non-passport holders travelling on identity cards issued by the ferry companies.

M Jean-Luc Vandamme, manager of the Calais branch of Prisunic, has announced that his supermarket will give 50 bottles of wine free with every 100 purchased, from November 19 to December 15.

Sixty other shops and restaurants in Calais have banded to form the Calais Shopping Circle, and will give British customers trading stamps so

that for every £30 spent with them, £1 will be returned.

Cross-Channel trade is estimated to have been worth £70m a year to Calais, but some stores estimate that the number of British customers has been halved since it became necessary for British trippers without passports to get British excursion documents from post offices. The documents cost £2.

M Guy Flameng, director of post services for the Calais Chamber of Commerce, said that there had been a loss of confidence in travel because of port blockades during the dockers' strike, which had contributed to the fall in the number of visitors.

Lawyers may get house-sale register

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Law Society is looking at the possibility of a computerized national house sale register or use in connection with property selling by solicitors.

A report to the society's council by its office management and technology working party says that such a system could be technically feasible, relatively inexpensive and useful to the profession.

The report is also urging the society to take immediate steps to set up a simple electronic

mail box network within the profession.

Many firms already have sophisticated electronic mail systems, it says. But there should be a profession-wide system which is simple, cheap and accessible to all firms.

The computerized national house sale register is being considered as one feature of a longer-term communications system which the society would like to set up, which is compatible with those used by

other institutions such as banks, building societies and the Land Registry.

The Law Society has agreed that solicitors in England and Wales should be allowed to sell property and employ estate agents to work in "property shops". It is drafting new practice rules along those lines.

● A solicitor's property centre has been officially opened in the border town of Berwick by Mr Peter Verdin of the English Law Society.



Royal premiere: Prince Henry's first public appearance, photographed with The Princess of Wales at Kensington Palace by Lord Snowdon.

Poison toll blamed on lack of staff

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Many of the 19 deaths from food poisoning at a psychiatric hospital could have been avoided if more staff and basic nursing equipment had been available, the largest health service union claims today.

The Confederation of Health Service Employees is critical of management of the Stanley Royd Hospital in Wakefield, West Yorkshire, alleging that the administration refused to

isolate infected patients, thereby adding to the toll.

Infected staff were ordered by management to return to the wards, although they had not been given a clean bill of health, and patients were exposed to the risk of reinfection and secondary infection from staff, the union says.

"That was a death sentence to elderly, frail patients," Mr Terry Foster, a Yorkshire area

official of the union said.

As more patients died, staff appealed for the reopening of the Soapthorpe Hospital nearby, where infected patients could be isolated, but management refused to open the unit, which was closed last April as part of a cuts programme, the union says.

The union's allegations are likely to be challenged by Wakefield Health Authority.

Minister challenged on Ronan Point

By Charles Kneivitt

Architecture Correspondent
Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, is to be asked in the House of Commons what action will be taken about an alleged alteration to the report of the Ronan Point public inquiry findings.

The allegations, published in *The Times* last week, is that a paragraph written by Professor Sir Alfred Pugsley, a member of the three-man tribunal, was deleted by a Ministry of Housing official against his wishes.

It referred to the structural stability of the 22-storey tower block as being comparable only to the glass in a good window.

Mr Nigel Spearing, Labour MP for Newham South, has tabled two questions for October 23, the day after Parliament reconvenes following the summer recess. The second question asks what action the Government intends to take having studied two reports by independent consultants on the faults found at Ronan Point.

Nearly 600 blocks containing 40,000 flats were strengthened after the Ronan Point disaster in 1968. The Government is expected to order new structural surveys of the blocks, after Newham council's decision last week to evacuate all nine of its Taylor Woodrow Anglian towers.

At least six London councils have ordered immediate tests on more than a dozen residential tower blocks built in the Larsen Nielsen building system by Taylor Woodrow-Anglian in the 1960s and early 1970s.

After publication of the report into the disaster at Ronan Point in 1968, when a gas explosion on the eighteenth floor caused the partial collapse of the 22-storey building, killing five people, more than £100m was spent on strengthening 567 blocks containing 38,700 flats throughout the country. Not all of them were built in the Larsen Nielsen system, nor by Taylor Woodrow-Anglian.

Head faces dismissal over race allegations

By Colin Hughes

Mr Ray Honeyford, the Bradford headmaster at the centre of a seven-month dispute over race relations at his school, will face calls for his resignation or dismissal today when the city's education department publishes the results of a critical inquiry by education advisers.

Details of the report leaked to *The Times* raise doubts about whether Mr Honeyford will be able to continue as headmaster of Drummond School. The report, being discussed at a special school governors' meeting tonight, criticizes his relations with parents and says it has had a poor effect on some aspects of the children's education.

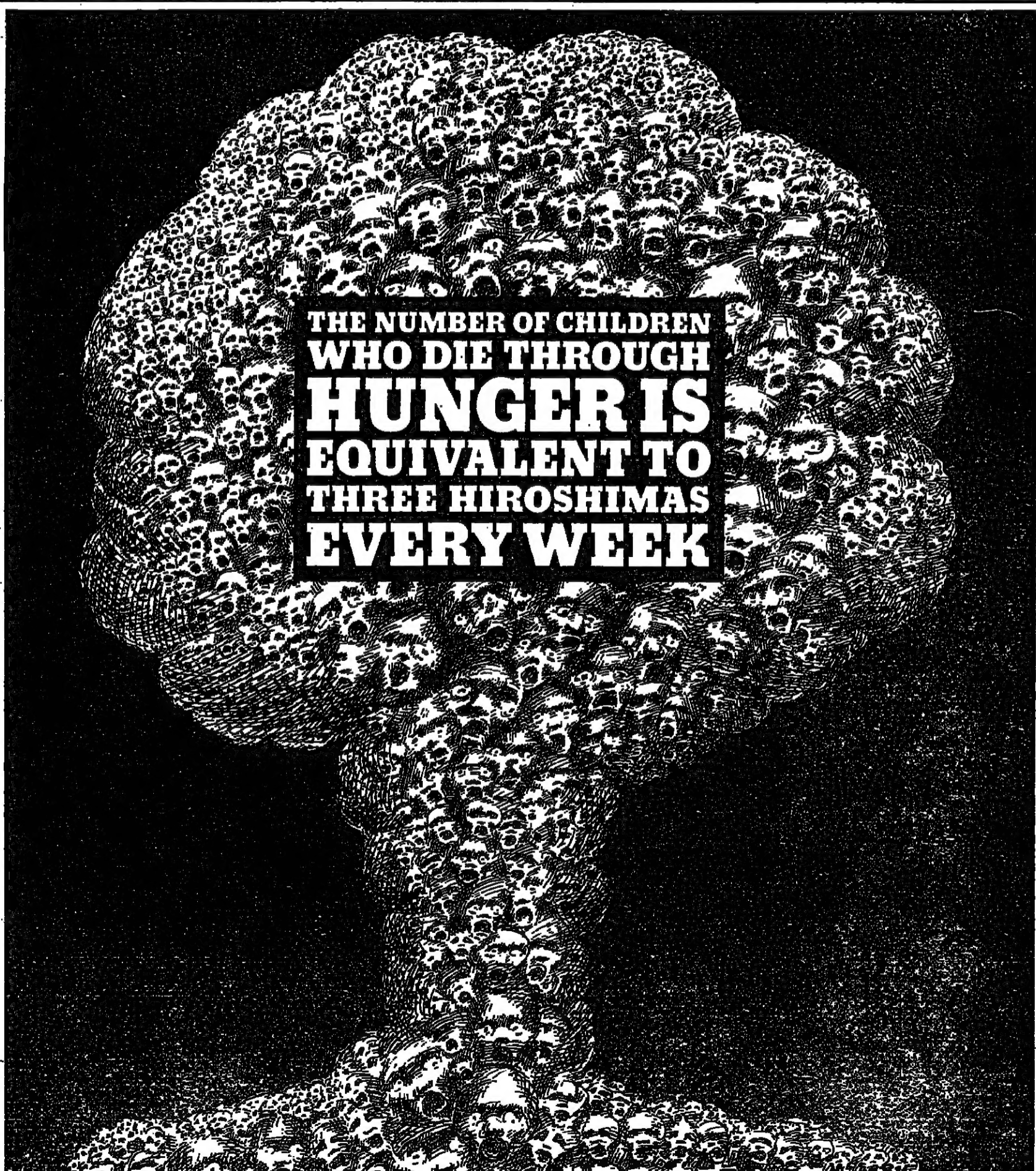
It further suggests that teachers have too low an expectation of their pupils' achievement, and finds no evidence to substantiate Mr Honeyford's view that the white minority of children at Drummond suffer from multi-ethnic educational policies.

Since Mr Honeyford openly criticized the city council's multi-ethnic policies in an article in the *Salisbury Review*, a large body of parents has campaigned for his removal, culminating in 238 transfer requests being lodged by parents last week.

Many of the governors, however, have stood by him. That now seems unlikely to continue, after the advisers' report, which was ordered by Mr Richard Knight, the council's chief education officer.

Mr Honeyford, in particular, has refused entry to his school any children of Asian descent, returning from long visits to their families abroad, or has disciplined them, and has been reluctant to accept Muslim requests for special treatment for Asian girls on religious grounds.

The report says his attitude to pupils' visits abroad is preventing the school as a whole from benefiting from a potentially valuable cultural opportunity.



We all live in fear of a potential nuclear war. But millions of people in developing countries are part of another holocaust.

A silent holocaust. Hunger. The statistics are grim. 500 million people go hungry every day. (That's the size of the entire population of Europe.) And 40,000

children will die from hunger-related diseases between now and tomorrow.

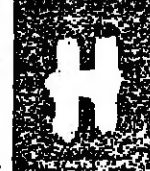
Yet the world produces enough grain to give every person on earth a nourishing 3,000 calories a day. Which is why Oxfam has launched a new campaign of hope. We've called it 'Hungry for Change' And

it stems from a conviction that change is not beyond our reach. But we cannot act alone. We need you. First, arm yourself with the facts. (You'll find them in our free information pack.) When you're fully informed, spread the word.

We'll tell you how you can

campaign for the changes the poor so urgently need. Please give us your support. And please fill in the coupon.

Because every one of us has it within our power to help. But only together can we turn back the tide of hunger.



OXFAM

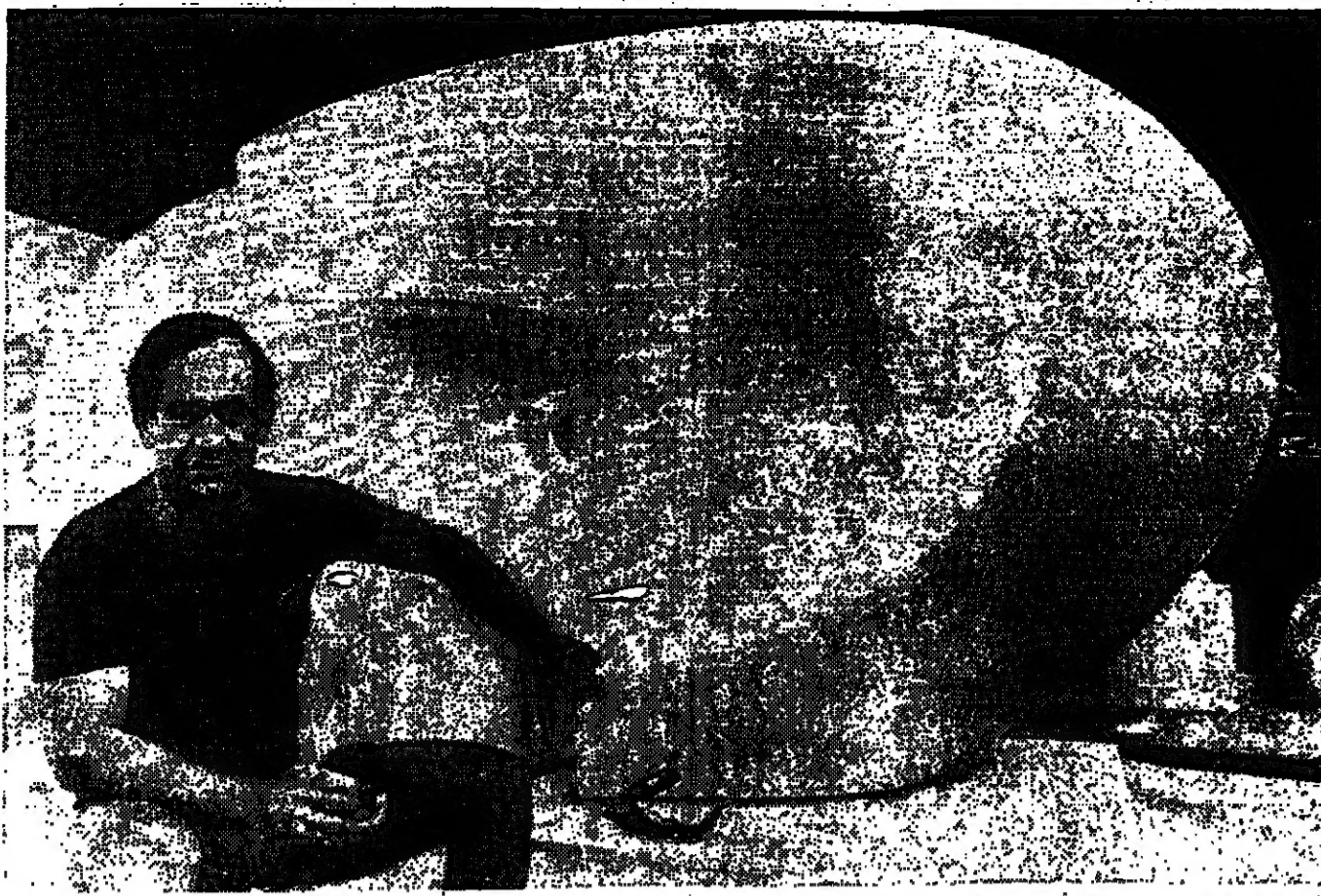
I AGREE THAT HUNGER IN THE WORLD IN 1984 IS AN OUTRAGE. I'D LIKE TO JOIN THE 'HUNGRY FOR CHANGE' CAMPAIGN. PLEASE SEND ME YOUR FREE INFORMATION PACK. Sent to: Guy Stringer, Oxfam, Room 11.54, Freepost, Oxford OX2 7BR

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Sculpture for Guy's: Mr Keith McCarter with a plaster model for the casting in bronze of his work "Encounter" for New City Court at Guy's Hospital, London (Photograph: Suresh Karadia).

Transplant report 'inaccurate'

A report and headline in the *Daily Express* which said a leading American liver transplant expert came to Britain to advise on a young patient was inaccurate, the Press Council says in an adjudication published today.

The council upheld a complaint by Mr J. R. P. Chapple, district administrator, Cambridge area health authority.

A report by Mr Peter Hardy carried headlines which said a top US doctor flew in to help the "liver boy" and "He will advise if new transplant is needed". It said Professor Tom Starzl would travel to Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, where the boy was a patient.

Mr Chapple told the Press Council the headline and story were pure fiction. Dr Starzl's visit had been arranged before there had been any talk of the operation. He was the guest of the Royal College of Surgeons and the purpose of the visit was to receive an honorary fellowship of the college.

The Press Council's adjudication was: The *Daily Express* story, and its headline, concentrated on a central inaccuracy - that the purpose of Professor Starzl's visit to Britain was to advise on the treatment of a liver transplant patient at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge. In fact, the main purpose of his visit was to receive an honorary fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons.

The reporter has told the Press Council that this fact was in his original copy but was edited out for space reasons. The Press Council finds that regrettable. However, the reporter's intention, the story as it appeared tended inferentially to disparage the work of the Cambridge medical team.

The complaint against the *Daily Express* is upheld.

Complaint on Sunday Express upheld

A complaint that a *Sunday Express* article contained unfair and unjustified comment about a local government officer has been upheld by the Press Council.

In the newspaper's Current Events column Henry Macrony noted the High Court awarded £220,000 to a four-year-old girl because a hospital error meant she would never be able to speak or walk. He compared this sum for a ruined life with the almost identical £200,000, including lump sum and pension he said was "picked up" by a "senior social worker" in London who lost her job - Miss June Simpson.

Miss Simpson complained that the amount of her "package" suggested by Mr Macrony was quite incorrect and she was in fact a chief officer of the council. Mr Macrony did not check any details with her.

Child benefits 'too low'

Families on supplementary benefit often have to borrow money for food, are frequently in debt and many of their children have secondhand shoes, a report from the Family Policy Studies Centre, published yesterday says.

The report, commissioned by the Department of Health and

Service sectors benefit as more workers go it alone to beat recession

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

A considerable increase in the number of Britons becoming self-employed is disclosed in figures published today by the Manpower Services Commission.

The number "going it alone" has increased from 1,340,000 in 1979 when the recession began, to 2,250,000 by March this year, according to the commission's Labour Market Quarterly Report. In the 1970s the figures declined by 100,000.

The biggest increases have come in the service industries, particularly banking, finance and insurance, but also in medical and health work, and recreational, cultural and personal services. In 1983 self employment in those groups was half as big again as in 1979.

Self employment in the construction industry rose by 70,000 in the four years to 1983, while at the same time employment in the sector fell by about 200,000. The figures reflect a radical change in work organization methods and a preference by construction companies to sub-contract work rather than employ labour directly.

Self-employment also increased between 1979 and 1983 in the distribution, hotels and catering industries, recovering most of the earlier falls.

The statistics will be greeted with some satisfaction by the

Government because of its stated mission to encourage small business and the entrepreneurial spirit as the only lasting way of pulling the country out of recession.

But the Opposition will point out that the main increases have come in the "soft" service industries, not in manufacturing. It will also argue that many of the self-employed will have been forced to go it alone and are not necessarily "thriving entrepreneurs".

The report shows that the number of people in employment rose by 190,000 in the year to March, mainly due to expansion in the service sector, but also as a result of smaller losses in the production and construction industries.

Region	1971 No of self employed	1979 No of self employed	1983 No of self employed	% distribution	Self employed as % of total labour force
S. East	641	635	747	34.0	8.5
E. Anglia	75	85	111	9.2	12.1
S. West	210	148	209	9.2	10.0
W. Midlands	163	131	191	8.7	9.0
E. Midlands	132	125	184	7.5	10.4
York & Humberside	160	130	174	7.9	8.9
N. West	228	212	233	10.0	7.9
North	85	87	98	3.6	7.0
Wales	118	100	121	6.5	11.2
Scotland	148	188	181	8.5	8.8

Source: Department of Employment

Man in the News: Pat Lowry

Peacemaker fit to handle the pits dispute

By Glen Allan

In less than a fortnight, Mr Pat Lowry, Britain's No 1 industrial peacemaker will preside over the tenth anniversary celebrations of his agency, the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service.

Between now and then the question intriguing observers of the industrial scene, is can Mr Lowry make it a double celebration by finding a formula to end the miners' dispute?

The task facing him and his assistants at Acas is colossal, but if ever there was a case of the right man with the right temperament in the right job at the right time, it is Mr Lowry.

Throughout his career, first as an official with the Engineering Employers' Federation and then as industrial relations director at British Leyland, he has brought a cool, calm and reasoned approach to his work.

His personality is engaging, but his character is tenacious, and there is little doubt that his agency reflects the same qualities. The path to peace in

the pits is undoubtedly full of obstacles for the unwary, but Mr Lowry knows how to survive.

Indeed he was almost born to the job, the son of a former Ministry of Labour official who became secretary of the Engineering Employers' Federation office in Leicester.

He spent six months with a stockbroking firm after he left school, and later followed in his

father's footsteps, joining the EEF as a statistical assistant in January, 1938, earning two guineas a week.

He progressed throughout the EEF hierarchy and undertook on the federation's behalf an extensive investigation of labour relations in America in the early 1970s which led to the publication of his book, *The Grass is Greener*.

In 1969, as an EEF official he became involved in efforts to end a strike at the Leyland plant in Lancashire, where he met Lord Stokes and was offered the job of industrial relations director at BLNC.

For the next 11 years he stayed with BL through one crisis after another, surviving a number of boardroom intrigues before joining Acas as chairman, in succession to Mr Jim Mortimer, in March, 1981.

Acas is well tailored to be the vehicle for a settlement of the miners' strike, because it is divorced from government, and acceptable to both sides of industry.



Mr Lowry: a talent for survival.

Mortgage aid proposed

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

Housing benefit should be extended to cover the costs of a mortgage for low-income home owners, according to Conservative-controlled local authorities. The London Boroughs Association, in evidence to the Government's housing benefit review, says such a move could help to simplify the housing

benefit system and encourage home ownership. It would reduce mortgage arrears and the chances of owner-occupiers losing their homes after marriages break up or jobs are lost. It might also help overcome the fears of those reluctant to become home owners "given the current economic climate

Dioxin fear as farmer sues over dead cattle

By Patricia Clough

Allegations by a farmer in the Irish Republic that emissions from a multinational chemicals plant at Ballydine, co Tipperary, have caused the deaths of more than 150 cattle and damaged his and his family's health, come before the High Court in Dublin today.

Mr John Hanrahan, who farms 264 acres at Ballydine in the rich South valley farming area, is suing Merck Sharp and Dohme (Ireland), which has a pharmaceuticals factory and waste incinerator at Ballydine near by.

Dr Geoff Buck, a British scientist who has investigated the case, first with a team from Trinity College, Dublin, and later on behalf of local farmers, says the symptoms in Ballydine cattle were similar to those in cows at Bonnybridge in Scotland, where a farmer is preparing to sue Re-Chem International a chemical waste processing firm, for £1m.

Chemical analyses conducted abroad for the Scottish farmer, Mr Andrew Graham, have shown low levels of the highly toxic chemical dioxin in soil and animal tissues from the farm, although it has not been established that this is the cause of the diseases or that the chemical was emitted by the plant.

Analyses done so far in the Irish Republic have found abnormal levels of bromine and chlorine in the hair of local cows, although no tests have so far been made for dioxin. Mr David Mackay, the county secretary for the South Riding of Tipperary said tests for dioxin would begin at the end of this month.

"The possibility of dioxin is so remote as to be incredible, but we will be testing in order to allay public fears", he said.

Mr Hanrahan alleges that 156 of his cows have died or died to be put down particularly because of lung diseases. A number of cows are deformed and have given birth to dead or deformed calves.

He also claims that paint and rustproofing compounds have been stripped from barns, sheds and gates.

The family have moved out of their home temporarily because they often felt ill there.

The company "totally rejects" the suggestion that it could be producing dioxin and disclaims all responsibility for Mr Hanrahan's difficulties. A spokesman said. The company had called in experts to check that nothing was amiss.

The factory makes a number of bulk chemicals for use in pharmaceuticals, plastics, as solvents recycling plant, and the incinerator which is used to burn some solvents operates only for 10 per cent of the time, he said. He denied that it burnt highly chlorinated substances, which can produce dioxin if not destroyed correctly.

Mr Mackay said the county had spent £40,000 on studies by various government bodies into the allegations and none had indicated any link with the plant. His office was however recommending tighter monitoring of its operations.

BP admits delay on photo offer

By Robin Young

The petrol company, BP, admitted yesterday that it had been unable to keep pace with the response to a sales promotion in which it offered to process customers' holiday films free.

Many motorists are complaining that they have waited five weeks without receiving their photographs.

BP in London said that delays had occurred because large numbers of films were sent in after the August Bank holiday at the beginning of the nine-week offer.

Cards had been sent out advising customers when they could expect to get their photographs back.

The films are being processed by Nashua Photo Products, of Paignton, Devon, but a switchboard operator there said that the managing director had been given orders by BP not to discuss the delays.

BP's offer has been reported to the Advertising Standards Authority as an apparent breach of the British Code of Sales Promotion Practice, which requires that all promotions should be conducted so as not to cause avoidable disappointment.

continued protection in the short term and a reason for its cessation as soon as possible".

The BSC believes that despite the miners' strike it can meet the EEC-imposed requirement of being free of British government subsidy by the end of next year.

Whether this will need a single government write-off of the corporation's losses - currently about £5m a week - remains to be seen, but one of the major stumbling blocks will be the effect on the BSC's finances of the exchange rate.

East Berlin meeting seen as sign Ogarkov is still in senior position

From Richard Owen, Moscow

The strange case of Marshal Nikolai Ogarkov, the former Russian Chief of Staff, took a new twist at the weekend when he reappeared in East Berlin, but the Soviet media passed over the event in silence.

The incident is seen here as evidence that Marshal Ogarkov, once Russia's most powerful soldier, is still in a senior position, but not yet back in favour with the Kremlin. Some diplomats said his reappearance was intended to counteract Western reports of top-level divisions in Moscow over arms control and military strategy.

The East German daily, *Neues Deutschland*, carried a front-page report on Saturday of Marshal Ogarkov's talks with Herr Erich Honecker, the East German leader. It also carried a photograph of the two and said they had discussed the combat readiness of the Warsaw Pact and "further deepening of the brotherhood in arms" between the Soviet and East German forces.

Neither *Pravda* nor *Red Star* carried any account of the meeting yesterday or on Saturday, and Marshal Ogarkov is still regarded as having been demoted.

Marshal Ogarkov was dismissed as Chief of Staff and Deputy Defence Minister on September 6. The move came as a surprise, and was not followed by the announcement of a new appointment. The only possible promotion for Marshal Ogarkov would have been to succeed Marshal Dmitry Ustinov as Defence Minister.

Last month an American professor who held talks in Moscow with senior military figures said he had been told Marshal Ogarkov was head of the Voroshilov Military Academy, a clear demotion.

Soviet sources, however, said he had been made head of the Western theatre of war, a command which, it is thought, could be vital in time of war but which in peacetime carries much less weight.

By contrast, the post of Chief of Staff had taken Marshal Ogarkov, aged 66, to the top of the military and political structure, with a key role in arms control.

During his talks with Herr Honecker, Marshal Ogarkov was accompanied by General Mikhail Zaitsev, commander of Soviet forces in East Germany, reinforcing the theory that

Marshal Ogarkov now has the Western wartime command. There was no confirmation of this in *Neues Deutschland*, which simply referred to him as "Marshal".

One Western diplomat said: "Formerly speaking, Ogarkov is a Marshal without a job. It is extraordinary that the East Germans should have publicized his reappearance while the Soviet public is left in ignorance".

When Marshal Ogarkov was dismissed abruptly last month and succeeded by Marshal Sergei Akhromeyev, there were reports that the former Chief of Staff had fallen out with other senior officers and with political leaders over arms control and future nuclear strategy and weapons development.

It was also reported that he had nurtured political ambitions and had fallen from grace because of "unhappy activities". His arrogance and intellect were thought to have disturbed the Kremlin after his brilliant if chilling performance last year at press conferences in the wake of the Korean airliner disaster, when the burden of explanation fell on the Soviet military.

Poles come in from diplomatic cold

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

A procession of Western visitors to Warsaw, including a Nato leader and a British junior minister, signals the imminent end of the diplomatic blockade of Poland. Officials in Warsaw believe that Poland has at last come out of the cold, a frost that descended after the imposition of martial law in December, 1981.

The first to break the ice will be the Austrian Foreign Minister, Herr Leopold Graf, due in Poland tomorrow. But the biggest breakthrough for the Government of General Jaruzelski is the visit next Monday of the Greek Prime Minister, Mr Andreas Papandreu, who as a fully fledged leader of a Nato country is ranked as a major prize.

As on other East-West issues, the Greek Government has not seen eye to eye with Nato on its treatment of Poland and has always opposed economic sanctions against the Warsaw Government. Now Polish officials hope that the end of the diplomatic boycott - in the coming weeks will also destroy the basis of economic penalties.

Mr Malcolm Rifkind, the junior Foreign Office minister, is due to arrive on November 4. He should be followed by Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher and Signor Giulio Andreotti, the West German and Italian Foreign Ministers.

Herr Genscher's visit has been the subject of long negotiation and since the imbroglio over the planned and

subsequently abandoned East German visit to West Germany, Warsaw appears to be in no hurry to announce the trip.

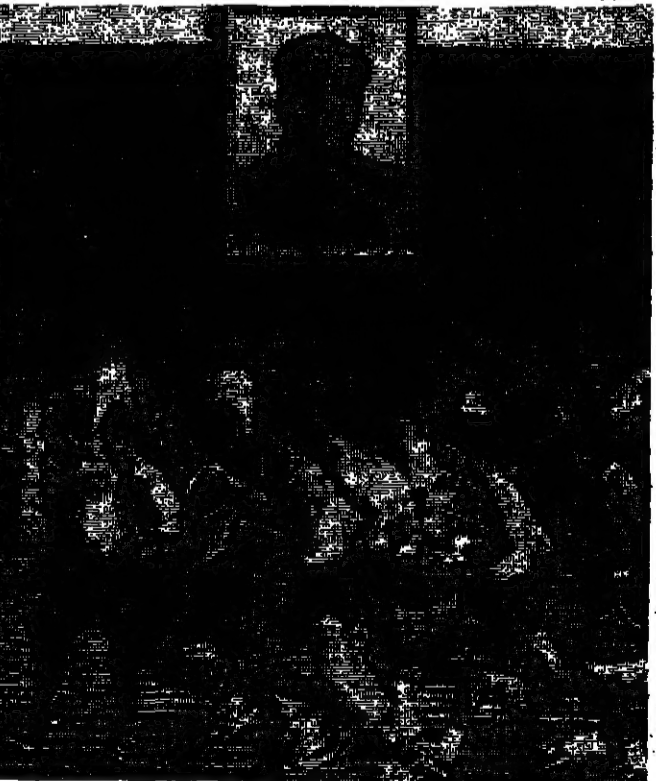
For many months after martial law began the only non-Soviet block visitors to Warsaw were politicians who could not be said to occupy the centre stage of world politics, men such as Colonel Gaddafi of Libya and Herr Franz-Josef Strauss of Bavaria. The successful trip of the Pope in the summer of 1983, the lifting of martial law and the freeing of the majority of the country's political prisoners have all smoothed the way for the impending high-level visits.

Poland clearly hopes that Western Europe will be active in trying to persuade the United States to drop the remaining sanctions. Washington said it would consider withdrawing its opposition to Polish membership of the International Monetary Fund if all political prisoners were freed. Some 22 prisoners remain.

There are some signs that Poland may make further concessions in its internal policies.

However, the extreme caution of the Jaruzelski leadership, the voices of the hardliners - to be heard again soon at a plenary session of the Central Committee on October 19 - and the muttering from Moscow may well militate against taking any dramatic step towards "liberalization".

Spectrum, page 10



Hitting Wall for Mao

Best foot forward: Front runners in yesterday's Peking marathon stream past a portrait of the late Chairman Mao Tse-tung at Tien Anmen Square. A Japanese, Kunimitsu Ito, won in 2hrs 12min 16sec, a record for the event. A Briton, David Griffiths, originally from Hereford, used it as a warm-up before jogging the 4,000-mile length of the Great Wall for charity.

Taxpayers foot bill for sacked brothel worker

Maddid - Spanish taxpayers must foot the bill for compensation for an illegally dismissed brothel worker.

Señorita Antonia Gracela, a receptionist at the establishment in Bilbao was dismissed in 1981. (Harry Debellus writes).

The court found her dismissal was unjustified. The owner, Señora Cova Prendes, refused to reimburse her and was ordered to pay her 418,500 pesetas (£1,940) in back wages and compensation.

The owner declared herself penniless, so unless this is disproved, the taxpayer will have to pay.

Peru reshuffle promotes anti-guerrilla experts

Lima (Reuters) - President Fernando Belaunde Terry of Peru has sworn in a new Cabinet which put two anti-guerrilla experts into senior political posts. There are seven new ministers in the 19-man Cabinet. The reshuffle came as the Government prepared for next April's general elections amid a growing threat from Maoist guerrillas.

Señor Luis Pérezovich, until Saturday the Interior Minister, becomes Prime Minister, and Foreign Minister. He is replaced in the Interior Ministry by General Oscar Brush Noel, previously War Minister.

The new Peruvian Cabinet is: Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs: Luis Pérezovich; Interior: General Oscar Brush Noel; War: General Julio Pérez; Economy, Finance and Trade: José Benavides; Agriculture: Juan Hurtado Miller; Labour: Joaquín Leguía; Health: Juan Franco Porras; Education: Andrés Córdova; Housing and Construction: Carlos Pastaza; Transport and Communications: General Antonio Arce; Energy and Mines: Juan Inchaurrazgo; Fisheries: Ismael Benavides Ferrero; Justice: Max Arías Schreiber; Industry, Integration and Tourism: Álvaro Becerra; National Development Institute: Juan de Madariaga; National Planning Institute: General Octaviano Nolasco; Social Communication System: Miguel Alva Orlandini; Navy: Vice-Admiral Jorge Du Bois; Air Force: Lieutenant-General José Zúñiga Samblás.

Steel chief warns US over growing protectionism

From Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent, New York

Mr Robert Haslam, chairman of the British Steel Corporation, has warned the United States that it may sour relations with all its trading partners if it persists in increasing protectionism.

Addressing the British-American Chamber of Commerce in New York, Mr Haslam criticized the latest attempts by the Reagan administration to restrict steel imports by so-called voluntary agreements, and said that continued protection of the domestic industry could lead to pressure for

retaliatory action against the United States.

Mr Haslam arrived in New York fresh from the annual conference in Chicago of the International Iron and Steel Institute, where the new curbs were the chief point of discussion and concern among the delegates.

The chairman of United States Steel and Bethlehem Steel both supported President Reagan's programme and Mr Haslam had said that anything that made the two industry

leaders happy had to carry "a big question mark".

The Reagan plan is to cut imports from 25 per cent to 18.5 per cent of the domestic market for the next five years, a move aimed primarily at the industries of countries such as South Korea and Brazil.

But Mr Haslam, whose own corporation has been badly affected by the strength of the US dollar, said in New York: "The fear is that the United States measures may simply allow the steel industry to maintain its relatively inef-

ficient practices and plants with minimal changes, with the industry using the breathing space to diversify rather than modernize".

He added that American steel prices were currently 20 to 30 per cent above European and Japanese levels and this must have had a major impact on the cost efficiency of steel-using industries.

He called on the United States government to "take a leaf out of the EEC's book and make modernisation and restructuring a condition for

Chance of thaw in Iceland strike

From Our Special Correspondent Reykjavik

The Iceland Government and union officials are to meet today to discuss a solution to the Civil Service strike which has crippled the country for the last two weeks.

Yesterday prayers were said in churches for an end to the strike, but the housebound were unable to hear radio broadcasts of the services because state radio and television are off the air.

It is 17 months since the centre-right coalition began its assault on roaring inflation, repeated devaluation and a general slide into economic chaos. It was only a matter of time before the workers struck back against an unprecedented austerity package. To many in the underpopulated island, renowned for its fish and hot springs, the only surprise has been how long it has taken.

The question now is, if today's talks fail, how long such a crippling strike can last, and will the 12,000 public service workers who have walked out increase pressure on the Government by bringing out a further 5,500 workers still at their jobs in essential areas such as hospitals, the police, refuse collection, and the customs service.

The strike has closed schools and creches, particularly important in a country with a high number of unmarried mothers and working women. Halted the mail and closed swimming pools - a big loss for Iceland's population of 230,000 for whom swimming is an important pastime.

The few government-controlled liquor stores are closed, though many people, including the proprietors of restaurants and the growing number of discotheques had with remarkable foresight anticipated the dispute and stocked up accordingly. Iceland is not yet in danger of running dry.

Buses are no longer running and newspapers ceased publication in September when printers went on strike.

Despite the deprivations, life appears to have been little affected and there are few shortages in the shops.

The very success of Iceland's Government in taming runaway inflation has brought about the present industrial crisis. In a country which had grown used throughout the 20 years to the early 1970s, to double-digit inflation, the figures for 1983 came as a jolt to the system, reaching in one quarter an all time high of 132 per cent.

Cumulative inflation over a decade was 3,500 per cent, interest rates were 47 per cent, the balance of payments deficit had got progressively worse reaching 10 per cent of gnp in 1982 while foreign borrowing at a ratio of 48 per cent to gnp, was too high.

Icelanders had not seemed too worried about high inflation until then. They had learnt to live with it and perpetuate it by wage indexation under which pay levels were adjusted in line with the cost of living every three months.

But faced with runaway inflation the Prime Minister, Mr Steingunnur Hermannsson abolished indexation for two years, perhaps for ever, devalued the krona, and restricted wage bargaining, allowing only low pay increases.

Although the Government could declare the strike illegal, both sides agree this would deepen the crisis, as many workers would refuse to return to their jobs.

The Government is confident there is still strong support for its tough line on inflation and that the drastic measures were necessary to rescue the economy.

Nkomo delights rally with tough attack on Mugabe

From Jan Raath, Harare

Mr Joshua Nkomo, aglow with the success of a big turnout at his party's congress here, appears to have rejected any cooperation with the leaders of the ruling Zanu (PF) party on the establishment of a one-party state.

He addressed some 6,000 party faithful at the National Sports Centre here on Saturday morning, in the party's first congress since independence. He was in high spirits as he spoke from a podium overhung by a gigantic banner bearing the picture of an eagle with outstretched talons.

At the end of his three-and-a-half-hour address he called for a vaguely defined "united front". He did not say with whom or give any details, other than saying that "it is the people who need to be united, not the parties".

Rejecting the idea of a one-party state under any agreement with the present government, he said the system could be a disaster in Africa, used by "corrupt elites" to prop up their power.

"If they (the Zanu leadership) succeed in imposing their unquestioned rule over the people, what more will they impose on us in the future?" he asked.

He also used the occasion to make his most damaging and

outspoken attack on the Government under Zanu (PF), the president of which is the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe. He listed "the unspeakable crimes which have been committed in the name of the Zimbabwe revolution", and denounced the "appalling and disgraceful" anti-guerrilla campaign in Matabeleland, which he likened to the Nazi extermination programme.

Emphasizing that responsibility was to be laid at the door of the ruling party's leadership, he belaboured the Government's economic performance, describing its record as one of "broken promises and disasters". Since 1980 "the promise of independence has turned into a reality of suspicion, terror and failure".

He dwelt at length on inflation, high consumer prices, the 20,000 former guerrillas who were now unemployed, state corruption and the "jobs for the family" syndrome. The country was being turned into a banana republic, he said to loud laughter.

He angrily attacked the detention of Mr Dumiso Dabengwa, the driving force behind Zanu's military effort in the war against the Rhodesian Government, and Mr Lookout Masuku, the former Commander of Zanu's armed forces.



Back to Earth: The commander of Challenger, Robert Crippen, with two of the crew, Kathryn Sullivan (left) and Sally Ride at the weekend. Both women said it was Commander Crippen who had made the mission so successful.

Seychelles denies close links with Russia

From Charles Harrison Nairobi

President René of the Seychelles has publicly denied allegations by his political opponents that the Indian Ocean republic is developing close links with the Soviet Union. But recent political unrest, which provoked President René's response, reflects

continuing conflicts within his Cabinet, according to Western diplomats.

With a population of only 65,000, the Seychelles has deep social and political divisions. Supporters of the former President James Mancham, who was overthrown while out of the country in 1977, are active in opposition to the socialist

policies of the René Government.

Soviet naval ships pay frequent visits to the Seychelles capital, Victoria, but, United States, French and Australian naval vessels are also seen there. Leafflets circulating in the islands allege that President René is moving further under Soviet influence and has agreed

to provide additional facilities for the Soviet Navy. They also accuse him of ordering religious leaders not to interfere in politics.

The US Ambassador, Mr David Fischer also found it necessary to deny rumours that the United States was supporting opposition groups against the René Government.

America to step up its shuttle flights

From Nicholas Ashford Washington

The space shuttle Challenger's successful landing at the Kennedy Space Centre in Florida, the site from which the craft was launched eight days earlier, means the US can now move ahead with a stepped-up schedule of shuttle flights.

The next mission, the fourteenth since the shuttle programme began, is due to begin on November 7. Another will take off on December 8.

Landing as often as possible at the shuttle's home base in Florida is a crucial goal of NASA planners. It saves time and money by eliminating the ferry trip from Edwards Air Force base in California, where the craft has to land if it cannot return direct to Florida, and by having it available to maintain a stepped-up schedule of one flight a month for the next year and a half.

The crew of five men and two women, the largest ever launched into space, succeeded in carrying out an ambitious programme of experiments and space walks despite a series of minor technical breakdowns at the start of the mission.

During their eight days in space, the astronauts launched a scientific satellite for monitoring the earth which will help scientists make better seasonal and yearly weather forecasts, used a space-borne mapping camera to map about 9 million square miles of the Earth's surface, and used an imaging radar system to construct photograph-like images of the Earth's terrain.

Washington speeds aid to Israel

From Moshe Brilliant Tel Aviv

Mr Shimon Peres, the Israeli Prime Minister, said on his return from Washington yesterday that the Administration had been "extremely forthcoming" without imposing any economic or political conditions or pressure.

Interviewed in Ben Gurion airport on his arrival, he said the Americans themselves had initiated the arrangement that the \$1.2 billion (£975m) annual economic aid be transferred to Israel immediately, instead of the usual instalments. The transfer is intended to give a breathing space to the Israelis, whose hard currency reserves have been dwindling.

Mr Peres said the American leaders and he had seen eye to eye on how to implement measures to secure the northern part of Israel and allow the troops to come home from Lebanon. The Israeli Defence Ministry was working on options and he expected that in three or four weeks they would be ready for submission to the Cabinet.

The Prime Minister said the United States agreement to cooperate in restructuring the Israeli economy was "a great opportunity" and carried hope, but by no means released Israelis from the duty to put their own house in order by saving foreign currency, reducing consumption levels to increase productivity and other belt-tightening measures.

● **LEBANON DEATHS:** A Bedouin tractor working in the Israeli Army and Arab guerrillas were reported killed early on Saturday fighting in southern Lebanon.

Israel Radio said an Arab squad infiltrated across the Awa river to Israeli-controlled territory from an area controlled by Druze militias.

The incursion was near Jezzine. Israeli reporters in southern Lebanon said the squad crossed the river at 2 am.

Death threat to Duarte before peace meeting

From John Carlin, La Palma, El Salvador

Tens of thousands of Salvadorans consumed by "peace fever", as one observer described it, are expected to make their way up winding mountain roads to the small town of La Palma today to witness the historic meeting between President José Napoleón Duarte and left-wing rebel leaders of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN).

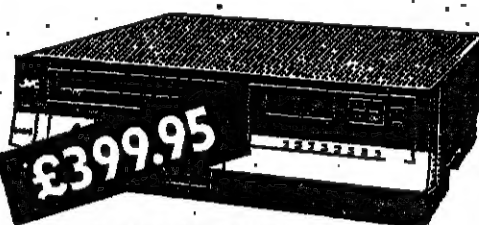
But there are reasons to believe that the meeting may not turn out to be the joyous event so many Salvadorans seen to expect.

There are few guarantees for the safety of either President Duarte or the rebel chief, who have all agreed to go to La Palma unarmed.

A notorious right-wing death squad, called the Secret Anti-Communist Army (ESCA), has issued a death threat against Señor Duarte, accusing him of "high treason" for offering a dialogue to the "communist" FMLN.

The absence of any sort of armed security in La Palma, combined with the presence of about 80,000 excited day-trippers. (The figure given by La Palma's mayor), promises to make conditions ripe for armed attack by recalcitrant elements of the right or left.

Government and rebel spokes-men are also attempting



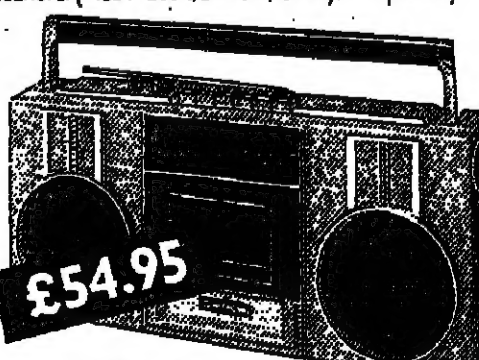
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Hitachi TRK6801 Stereo Radio Recorder LW/MW/SW/Stereo VHF wavebands, LED indicators for stereo VHF and battery level, mains/battery operation. The price is a record £54.95. (Plus Toshiba, Sharp, Sanyo, Sony, JVC.)

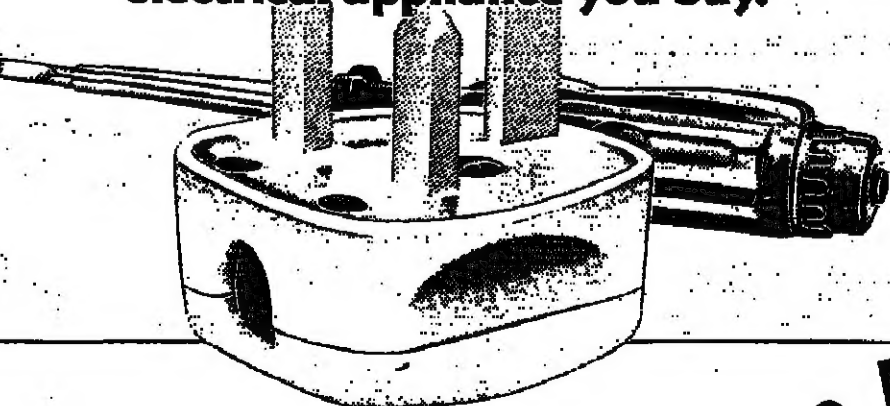
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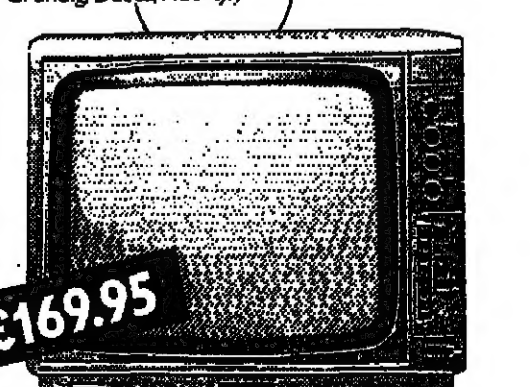


Sharp 5810 Microwave 5 preset cooking levels including de-frost, signal bell timer, turntable cooking system for even cooking, oven light. All for a tasty £179.95. (Plus Toshiba, Tricity, Philips, Zanussi, Hitachi, Moulinex.)

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Crowds flock to hear bubbling Mondale take the fight to Reagan

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

Although President Reagan remains far ahead in the polls, Mr. Walter Mondale's superior performance in last week's televised debate has done wonders for his own campaign performance and for the crowds that have turned out to hear him.

The past week has been the best for the Democratic challenger since the presidential campaign got under way. He has positively bubbled with exuberance at some of his campaign appearances. His speeches have improved and so has his delivery.

The woodenness and joylessness of his earlier campaign appearances has gone. Instead,

Mr. Mondale seems more relaxed when he is trying to appear light-hearted, more hard-hitting when attacking his presidential opponent.

His new-found ebullience has had a rousing effect on his supporters. Sensing that Mr. Mondale has succeeded in getting himself back into the race - although still trailing badly - huge crowds have been turning out to greet him and to urge him on to victory in next Sunday's televised presidential debate.

This debate, which will take place in Kansas City, offers Mr. Mondale his last chance of significantly closing the gap between himself and Mr. Reagan before Election Day on November 6.

The President's advisers are essentially engaged in an exercise of damage control. During the past week they have been trying to divert attention from the President's disappointing performance during the first debate by getting him to focus on the contrasts between his record and that of the previous Carter-Mondale Administration.

This week Mr. Mondale and Ms. Geraldine Ferraro will be campaigning on the West coast, particularly in California which is the only large "sunbelt" state where they seem to be making some headway.

Both hope to make political capital out of the remark made by Vice-President George Bush on Friday when he claimed he had "kicked a little ass" during his debate with Ms. Ferraro the previous day and his unsubstantiated accusation that the Democrats had said the US Marines killed by terrorist attacks in Lebanon had "died in shame."

Neither Mr. Mondale nor Ms. Ferraro has made such a remark. Mr. Mondale has demanded an apology.

The President will be campaigning in the Deep South today and the Mid-West tomorrow. After that he will spend the time preparing for Sunday's debate, breaking off only to attend on Thursday the Al Smith Catholic charity dinner.

Leading article, page 15

US beating terrorism

Washington (Reuters) - Mr. William French Smith, the Attorney-General, has reported a dramatic decline in United States terrorist incidents, but acknowledged difficulties in combating international terrorist attacks.

"Since 1968, 40 per cent of all international terrorist incidents have been attacks on United States citizens, diplomats, military personnel and public institutions," he told the

Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

In the United States the number of terrorist incidents fell 40 per cent in 1983 to 31, and so far this year there had been just eight.

He attributed the steep decline to substantially increased use of electronic surveillance and revising guidelines that placed strict limits on the ways the Federal Bureau of Investigation could acquire intelligence.



Literary laureate: Jorge Luis Borges, the Argentine writer who is aged 85 and blind, after receiving an honorary doctorate from Rome University at the weekend.

Anti-apartheid allies welcome visit by British Labour MP

From Michael Horshy, Durban

The Labour Party spokesman on foreign affairs, Mr. Donald Anderson, arrived here last night to hold a prayer service in the British Consulate with the three anti-apartheid campaigners who have been sheltering there from the South African security police since September 13.

Mr. Anderson, who is also a barrister and Methodist lay preacher, flew in to Johannesburg yesterday morning from London, saying he had come as the personal ambassador of Mr. Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, "to express solidarity" with the three men and other victims of repression.

In addition to visiting the three consulate fugitives - Mr. Archie Gumede, Mr. Billy Nair and Mr. Paul David - Mr. Anderson will visit three other men who were arrested when they left the consulate voluntarily on October 6 and are now in prison, in Pietermaritzburg, 50 miles north of Durban.

Mr. Anderson had also asked to see a number of others members of the United Democratic Front, the multiracial alliance of anti-apartheid groups of which Mr. Gumede is one of the three national presidents, who are being held in Diepkloof Prison, near Johannesburg.

He has had no response so far to this last request. However, Mr. R. F. Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, has given Mr. Anderson

permission to see the three Pietermaritzburg detainees, while at the same time denouncing "the blatantly political nature" of his visit.

Mr. Anderson was met at Johannesburg airport by a delegation led by Mr. Zac Yacoob, a senior member of the UDF and the Natal Indian Congress, the chief spokesman of the consulate fugitives, and Mrs. Helen Joseph, the venerable white opponent of apartheid and an elected patron of the UDF.

At a brief press conference, Mrs. Joseph thanked Mr. Anderson for coming. "I am greeting you in the name of the South Africa that is going to be, not the South Africa that is," and then warned local journalists that, as a "liberal" person, she could not be quoted.

Describing his visit as "partly fact-finding and humanitarian," Mr. Anderson was challenged by a South African television reporter to say how Britain could justify obstructing the due process of the law by refusing to hand over the three fugitives.

"The due processes of the law do not prevail in this case," he replied. "Where there is arbitrary justice, there is no justice."

The Minister for Law and Order was trying to detain without trial people guilty of no crime that would be recognized in any civilized system.

Gulf race to save tanker from exploding

Bahrain (Reuters) - British and Dutch salvage experts are being flown to the Gulf to help save the gas tanker Gaz Fountaine, hit by rockets last Friday and still in danger of exploding.

The 23,796-ton tanker, managed by a Greek company, was being towed towards the centre of the waterway by tugs as liquid gas leaked from two holes in the deck. A fire on board had been extinguished.

Tehran blamed Iraqi planes for the attack, but Gulf shipping sources said it looked much more like an Iranian retaliatory attack.

Shake-up on the way in China

Peking (Reuters) - The Chinese Communist Party's Central Committee is holding a key meeting that is expected to endorse sweeping economic changes including price rises, Asian and Western diplomats said.

Crucial urban reforms are being discussed which, the diplomats said, would reduce the role of centralized planning, shake up industry and deal another blow to Maoist egalitarianism.

Unkind cut for batsman Hawke

Canberra (AFP) - Australia's Prime Minister, Mr. Bob Hawke, was hit in the face while batting during a cricket match against the parliamentary press gallery here yesterday.

His spectacles were broken and he was taken to hospital to ensure there was no glass in his eyes. He had attempted to hit a boundary, but succeeded only in edging the ball into his face.

Killer dies

Richmond, Virginia (Reuters) - Linwood Briley, aged 30, the man who led the biggest Death Row escape in US history, was executed in the electric chair on Saturday night for murdering a disc jockey. He and five other condemned men broke out on May 31 and he and his brother stayed free until June 19.

Tour appeal

Christchurch (Reuters) - New Zealand's National Council of Churches has asked the New Zealand Rugby Union to decline South Africa's invitation to the All Blacks for a tour next year. It called on the New Zealand Government to stop the tour.

Duke's rebuke

Tokyo (Reuters) - Japan must try to meet its obligations under the pact protecting endangered species of wildlife, the Duke of Edinburgh said here. He would tell Japanese leaders that they signed the convention and must observe it.

Beer shock

Prague (Reuters) - A 50 per cent increase on the price of beer announced over the weekend for Czechoslovaks was sweetened by a broad improvement in social services, including family and health allowances and pensions.

Police arrested

Madrid - Twenty members of Spain's national police are under arrest in Seville for joining a demonstration there last July against the disciplining of other officers. Senior Jose Lopez, national secretary of the Unified Police Union, told reporters that he and others face detention of up to two months.

Blyth refit

Rio de Janeiro (AP) - Round-the-world yachtsman Chay Blyth, attempting a record-breaking trip on the New York to San Francisco clipper route, put in at Cabedelo, a small northern Brazilian port, to repair his boat, damaged in a hurricane.

Ershad's opponents fling down the gauntlet

Dhaka (Reuters) - Bangladesh's opposition leader addressed rallies of tens of thousands of people in Dhaka yesterday and announced a campaign of non-cooperation with the Government to force the Government to meet their conditions for elections.

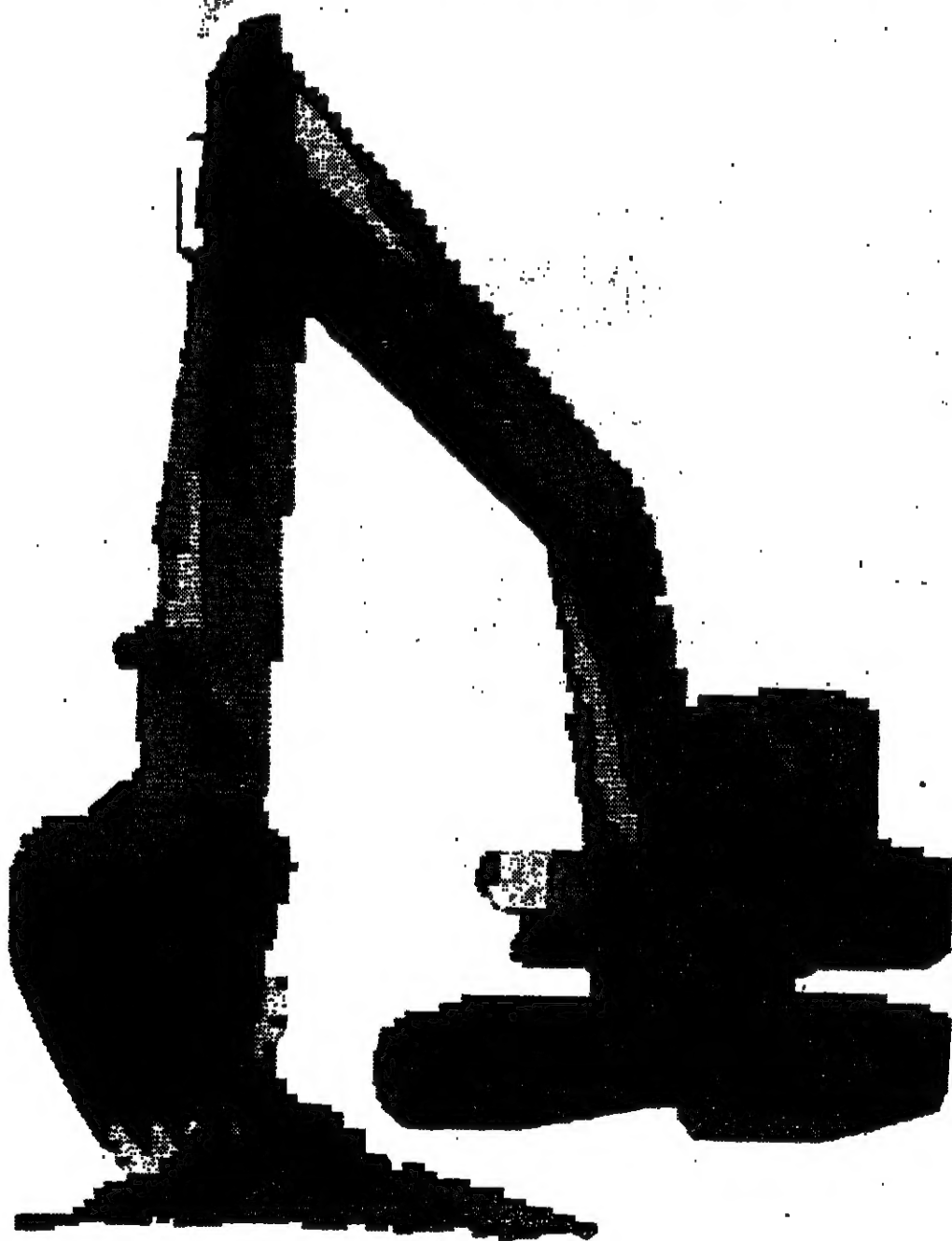
They called for a 24-hour national strike on December 8, the date set by the country's military ruler, President Ershad, for parliamentary polls.

Kabul parades captive

Islamabad (Reuters) - Jacques Abouchar, a French television reporter captured by Soviet troops in Afghanistan last month, has told a press conference in Kabul that he entered the country illegally, but denied he was on a spying mission.

"I am not an intelligence agent," he told the press conference held last Thursday and broadcast by Kabul radio

The British construction industry trusts Shell oils



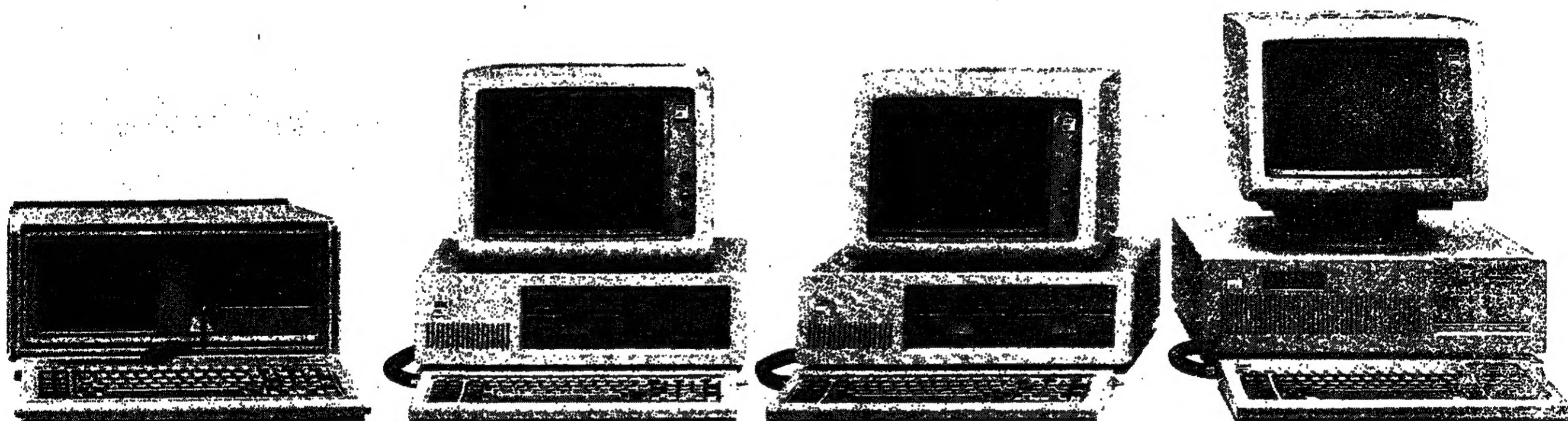
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Election fever takes hold as India gears up for December campaign

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

India has election fever, and the country's political temperature is rising. The date is not known - though it is presumed Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister, has made up her mind - but the opportunities for holding an election are becoming progressively fewer.

According to the constitution, the new parliament must meet by January 20 next year. Since counting of votes from such faraway places as the Himalayan villages of Ladakh or Arunachal Pradesh and the tiny islands of Andaman or Nicobar can take anything up to three weeks, it is widely expected that the election must be held by December 31.

The Prime Minister has to give 42 days' notice to the electoral commission, so the earliest it could take place would be the last few days of next month. Essentially, if the election is to be held on time, it will be in December.

All the parties, therefore, are getting into election gear as fast as they can. Mrs Gandhi's Congress (I) is spending this week coming to grips with the problems it faces in ensuring reelection.

General secretaries of the party - foremost among whom is her son Rajiv - have been interviewing officials from Congress committees of the 20 states. Many questions concern the party morale and organiza-

tion. But the key questions are to do with the selection of candidates.

It seems clear that the power to select the candidates - the issuing of the Congress "tickets" - is being taken from the state parties and centralized in the hands of Mr Gandhi and his colleagues. The newly-elected MPs will therefore be considerably more in their power.

The Bharatiya Janata Party, which is the more right-leaning of the parties with strong support of Hindu communists, is holding its national council meeting. It has decided it will seek an alliance, through agreements not to oppose each other at the hustings, with the Communist parties, whose policies are likely to be diametrically different, but who can agree on wanting Mrs Gandhi out.

The Lok Dal of Mr Chaudhury Charan Singh and the Janata Party, led by Mr Chandra Shekhar, despite talk of their merger, have not managed to announce it officially. Talks are reported to be continuing.

The electoral commission has announced that it is ready and willing to hold elections as soon as the starting pistol is fired. Even areas such as Punjab, where pistol-firing in earnest has been recently heard, have got up-to-date electoral registers.

In Assam there is some argument about whether it would be more appropriate to use out-of-date registers or seriously out-of-date registers. The latter would not contain so many of the illegal migrants from Bangladesh who have caused much bitter bloodshed in the recent past.

Elections could well be put off in these two states. The last Assam election, 20 months ago, caused more than 3,000 deaths. Punjab, despite the present apparent calm and diminution of terrorist activity, could still be burst wide open by a divisive election campaign.

There is also a constant fear among opposition members that Mrs Gandhi might decide to do the same to elections in all the states. A long article in *The Statesman* indicated the possibility of a mid-November recall of Parliament, which would have the task of altering one word in the constitution. It would thus read six years instead of five for the life of a parliament, and Mrs Gandhi would have another 12 months in power.

But Mrs Gandhi has said the elections will take place when they are due and putting them off would cause such an outcry that it could inflict the severest damage on the unity and integrity of the country which she has constantly pledged to protect.

Focus on women political prisoners



Mrs Ogr (left) and Mrs Yilmaz: Beaten, given electric shocks and hung from ceiling.

Tortured Turks seek asylum

By Caroline Moorehead

Sema Ogr and Nursal Yilmaz were two student friends at Ankara University, active in human rights affairs and members of a banned youth organization, when they were arrested in February, 1981. The two young women were charged with "making communist propaganda" and held at Ankara Police Headquarters - notorious in recent years as a torture centre - before being sent on to Mamak Military Prison, where they were again beaten, kicked, given electric shocks and suspended by ropes from the ceiling.

Mrs Ogr's husband, Mehmet, arrested at the same time and also severely beaten, was forced to watch his wife's torture. She, in turn, was made to witness his.

PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE

Today the two women are in London, waiting to hear whether their request for political asylum has been granted. They escaped from Turkey together, on black market passports, at a brief moment between trial and reimprisonment.

Their cases are being highlighted by Amnesty International, which commemorates its annual Prisoner of Con-

science Week this year by focusing on women political prisoners - "women of courage" - who, they argue, are specially vulnerable to certain techniques of torture and suffer repercussions applicable only to them, such as rape and the risk of pregnancy.

For Mrs Ogr the torture began immediately after arrival at the police headquarters. "During the first 21 days I was twice taken to hospital," she says. "I spent one night in the emergency ward on a drip. I had been punched, the soles of my feet had been beaten and I had been left hanging in a crucifixion position. The pain was so bad that my screams drowned the torturers' voices."

Growing influx creates tensions

Hispanics begin to shake off apathy

Hispanics are the fastest-growing group in the United States, a significant part of changing America, slowly awakening to their political potential, and their growth is accelerated by waves of illegal immigrants. In the first of a three-part series, Trevor Fishlock reports from Texas.

The war of independence here, 140-odd years ago, featuring the Alamo, Davey Crockett, Sam Houston and all, may have wrested Texas from Mexico, but it did not take it away from Mexicans.

The frontier is where Anglo and Latin-American rub together, the meeting place and bridge between two immense and dynamic cultures. Mexicans have always sought a better life in the West. They poured in after the revolution of 1910-1920, strengthening the border country's accent in language, food, clothing and architecture.

In the past 20 years there has been a new wave of migrants, pushed by Mexico's swelling population and poor economy. Today a fifth of California's 24 million people, and more than a fifth of the 15 million people of Texas, are Hispanic, mainly Mexican. More than half the people of San Antonio, site of the Alamo, are Mexican and the city has in its mayor, Mr Henry Cisneros, a nationally-known Hispanic political figure.

In all of the United States there are 16 million Hispanics, more than 6 per cent of the population. They are more fertile and growing faster than any other group. Their average age-23 is far younger than the national average of 31.5. The figure of 16 million does not include illegal migrants, thought to number more than six million.

The term "Hispanic" is a portmanteau covering four distinct groups with a Spanish language background. Three-fifths of them are Mexicans, often known as Chicanos, once considered derogatory, though now a sobriquet worn with pride.

The second biggest group, 14 per cent, are from Puerto Rico. They enter freely because the island's people were given US citizenship in 1917. A great wave of them migrated, mainly to New York, after the Second World War and created Spanish Harlem. There is now a new

wave of Puerto Rican immigration, caused by recession and cuts in federal aid in the island.

The third group, 5.5 per cent of whom fled from Castro, settled in Miami and are invading that city. Most Hispanics tend to be Democrats, but the American Cubans, fervently anti-Castro, are strongly Republican because they like President Reagan's anti-communist stance.

The remainder are from Central and South America. In the past year there has been a large increase in the numbers of Nicaraguans and Salvadoreans moving in, legally and illegally, to find political refuge and jobs.

The Hispanic influx has created tensions, especially in the South West, where blacks complain that Mexicans are taking their jobs and whites have moved out as browns have moved in.

Anxiety over the new arrivals, especially the "wet backs" (wet from wading over the Rio Grande), who come illegally, has led to the introduction of a Canute-like control measure now struggling through Congress.

There is doubt whether it will be enacted or have any use. But it has stimulated argument over the question of controlling migration into a country built and constantly renewed by migrants. The argument that Mexicans take jobs from Americans has been shown, generally, to be wrong. On the contrary, the newcomers - legal and illegal - help stoke the economy.

Nevertheless, the stir over control is making more Hispanics politically conscious. Hitherto they have been apathetic, but they are strong in states like California, Texas, New York and Florida, which are significant in presidential elections. They are being courted and beginning to realize they have muscle. How they will use it as their numbers grow remains to be seen.

Tomorrow: Economic role

HISPANICS IN THE US: Part 1

European notebook

Kangaroos fail to take a birthday leap forward

The Kangaroos celebrated their second birthday last week. The party was a small affair at the European Parliament in Strasbourg while most people were absorbed in the British budget debate and plastic bullets. Yet the Kangaroos' birthday party was really the most important Common Market event of all.

The Kangaroos are a pressure group devoted to smashing down the internal frontiers of Europe. A kangaroo is their mascot because of its symbolic ability to leap over things such as customs and immigration posts.

And it was symbolic of the EEC today that in the week of their birthday the Kangaroos had to worry about two enormous setbacks to their cause and to consider a real body-blow to their campaign at the Grand Hotel in Brighton.

The first setback was the apparently irrevocable decision of the British Government to follow the example of every other member state by charging value-added tax on imported goods at the docks. Until now Britain has demanded payment of VAT only after the goods reached their final destination. This has greatly reduced formalities for goods coming into Britain.

Two factors have made the Government decide to join the herd. The first is that early payment will provide a one-off bonus of £1.2 billion in cash to the Exchequer. The second is that British industry has

long complained that it is at a major disadvantage with its EEC competitors because it has to pay its VAT on the nail while its rivals are given a considerable period of grace.

So next month Britain abandons its pioneering approach to adopt the system which the Kangaroos estimate will cause such administrative chaos that it will rival a dock strike in causing traffic jams.

The second setback is the apparently irrevocable decision of Bonn to go it alone in introducing exhaust emission standards for cars which essentially will shut West Germany's frontiers to imports of vehicles from other EEC countries.

The bomb at the Grand Hotel may also blow up any early hopes of doing away with passport formalities inside the EEC. None exists at the moment between Britain and Ireland, although they are in force with the rest of the EEC. The Home Office has always argued that this is a necessary check against terrorists.

But, with the most dedicated terrorists coming in with no passport control at all, the argument falls flat. If anything, there are likely to be further calls to end the no-passport system between Britain and Ireland.

So the two-year old Kangaroo is still a delicate young animal, threatened by extinction. To survive it will need to show more cunning than is symbolized by its give-away birthday present this year - a mug.

Ian Murray

Delhi protests at Sri Lanka fishing curfew

From Our Correspondent Colombo

A dusk-to-dawn curfew, from 6pm to 6am, has been imposed in Sri Lanka's northern territorial waters to prevent Tamil rebels from smuggling arms from Tamil Nadu, in southern India's northern province under cover of darkness, and also to prevent poaching in Sri Lanka's waters by Indian fishermen.

The state-owned radio, announcing the curfew yesterday, said fishermen in the north would be provided with other areas to carry out fishing operations.

In the past two days Sri Lanka Navy patrol boats have rounded up 91 Indian fishermen from 17 trawlers for allegedly poaching in Sri Lankan waters. They are to appear before a High Court judge today.

There have been reports of demonstrations by Indian fishermen at Rameshwaram in Tamil Nadu against the arrest of their colleagues.

Striking unions' threat of national Disney boycott

From Ivor Davis Los Angeles

Leaders of five striking unions at Disneyland's Magic Kingdom have threatened a national boycott of the organization. The union presidents, in a statement issued through their headquarters in Washington, said the boycott by their four million members, would include Walt Disney World, the huge entertainment complex in Orlando, Florida.

Disneyland strikers, meanwhile, put new picket lines round Disney studios in Burbank in an extension of the almost three-week-old strike.

About 2,000 employees are involved in the strike which was called over wage talks. The unions said the boycott would take place if Disney officials did not come up with new offers. Disneyland officials said about 600 employees had returned to work and another 250 had expressed their intention of doing so. Disneyland has stayed open during the strike.

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the Leeds PERMANENT BUILDING SOCIETY

LG/715/8

With today's criminals, it's more grey cells we need.

Much of London's crime gives every appearance of having been committed by mindless morons.

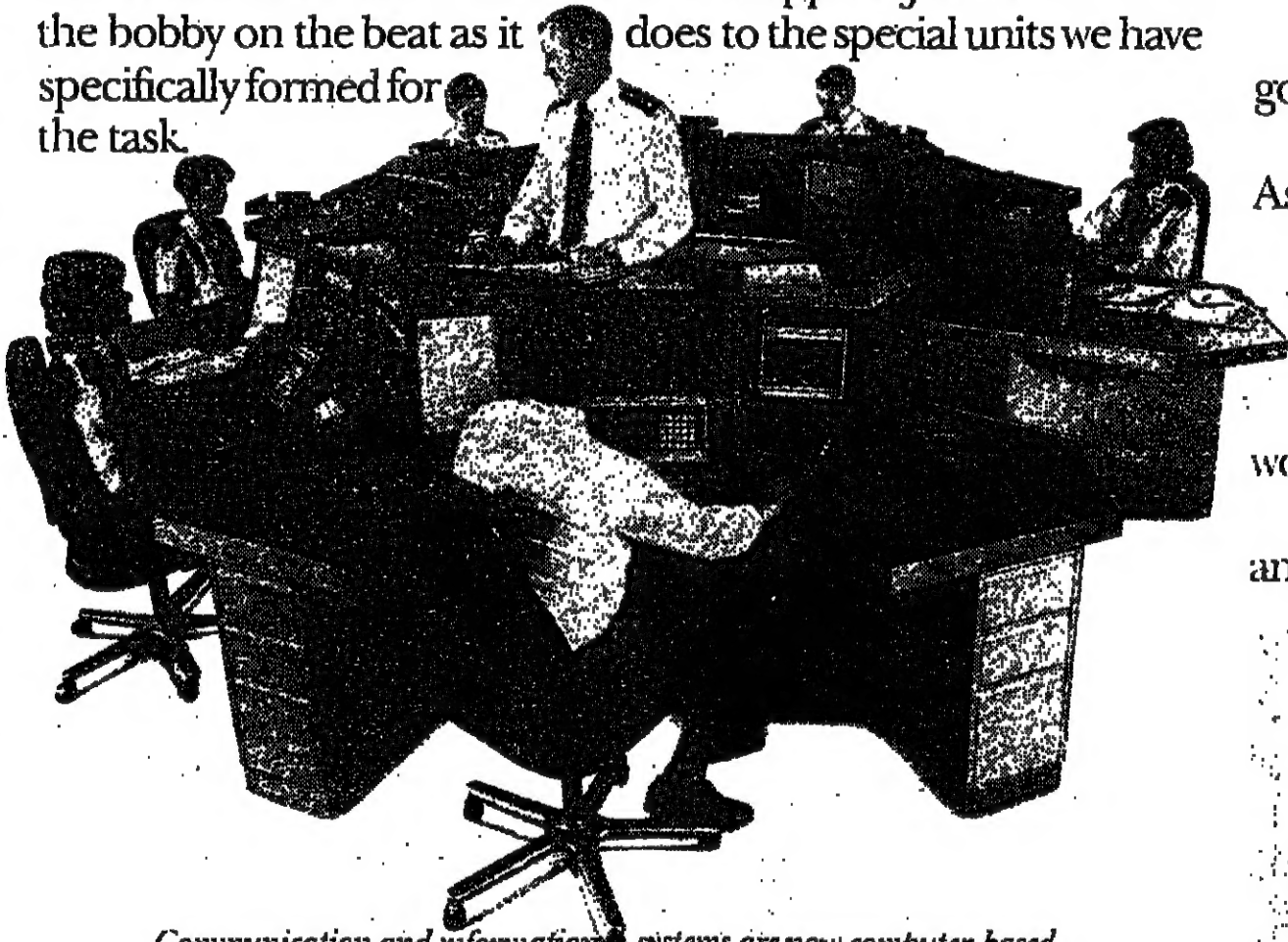
By contrast, some financial frauds are so complex, it takes some of our top brains months to unravel them.

Whichever end of the scale we're dealing with, a quick chase and an armlock isn't always the solution.

In our opinion, it's infinitely better to be one step ahead of the criminal rather than a couple of paces behind.

Brainpower or Manpower?

These days, we place a lot more emphasis on intelligence and keen observation work. And this applies just as much to the hobby on the beat as it does to the special units we have specifically formed for the task.



Communication and information systems are now computer-based.

Like the criminal fraternity, we're always on the lookout for new ideas we can turn to our advantage.

The Neighbourhood Watch Schemes that are proving to be so successful are just one example.

Micro-chip technology is another.

A lot of routine investigation is now done by computer; tracing fingerprints, checking on stolen cars, cross-referencing information to find a common link—that sort of thing.

The traffic in central London would be even more of a nightmare if it weren't largely computer controlled.

Our central Command and Control complex and communication links with local police stations have all been computerised, too.

In short, the Met is a very sophisticated machine. And it runs on brain power as much as manpower.

Who needs brains on the beat?

Now more than ever, you need a bit more under your helmet than a neat haircut.

You might have to come between a wife-basher and his nearest and dearest.

You might be the first on the scene of a serious accident.

You might be called to help someone who's collapsed on the street.

You might have to crawl onto a roof with a suicidal lady who wants to throw both of you into the street below.

Even facing a mugger with a knife requires a bit of quick thinking before you put your self-defence training to the test.

Most people would say you'd have to be barmy to do it.

The reverse is nearer the truth.

A police officer's job calls for someone with a lot of common sense and a very level head indeed.

You can't be over-qualified.

The sort of qualifications we look for are at least five good 'O' levels. But if you happen to have a couple of 'A' levels or a degree, so much the better.

They'll help you go further, faster.

Everyone starts on the beat and anyone with ambition can go just as far as their ability or inclination will take them.

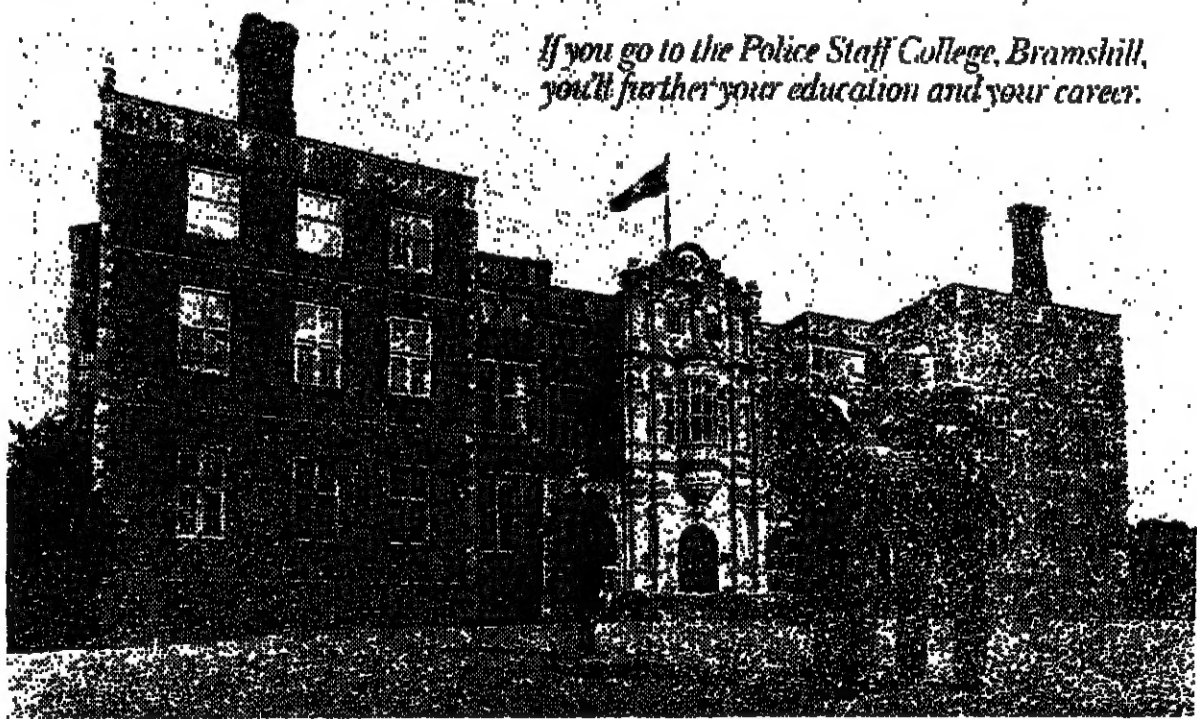
Raw recruit to Inspector in under five years is not unknown. As you can imagine, competition is fierce.

Rest assured though, if you've got enough up top, that's where you'll end up.

What's the reward?

It's a well-paid job. But if your sole motivation is money, you won't get past the two-day Selection Board.

In the Met, you'll have to do things others wouldn't do for any amount of money.



If you go to the Police Staff College, Bramshill, you'll further your education and your career.

On the other hand, what could match the satisfaction of putting away a really nasty villain, helping to reduce the tensions in a multi-racial community, or cheering-up a lost toddler with an ice-cream?

In hard cash, the very least you'll start on at 18½ (our minimum age) is £8,481, including a London allowance.

If you're a bit more mature, you'll be better equipped for the task. So over 22's start on more.

And for anyone with aspirations in that direction, a newly promoted Chief Inspector takes home a basic salary of £15,636. On a par with any manager outside the Met.

You'll have to be at least 172 cms tall if you're a man, or 168 cms for a woman. The Selection Board will see whether you measure up or not.

For further information, phone (01) 725 4575. Write to The Appointments Officer, Careers Information Centre, Dept MD600, New Scotland Yard, London SW1H 0BG.

Or visit us at our Careers Information Office in Victoria Street.



SPECTRUM

In Part 1 of a series on Eastern Europe, Roger Boyes discovers how the 'masses' are changing society by rejecting the party line

The new revolution – through evolution



His face, huge and bearded, looks unkempt, faintly grubby, like a man who has been sleeping rough under hedgerows. The stare, projected from the sides of bomb-pocked buildings, contains both menace and a kind of saintliness, a police poster face.

One would not be unduly surprised if the text underneath had read: "Wanted, Dead or Alive – Karl Marx, last seen Dean Street, Soho. May be armed." The slogan actually says: "On the thirty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the DDR we have fulfilled 74 per cent of our plan."

Ah yes, Karl Marx. As Eastern Europe celebrates its various birthdays, the anniversaries that mark the Soviet liberation or the establishment of socialism, Karl Marx seems to have been left off the invitation list. His name is everywhere and is everywhere taken in vain.

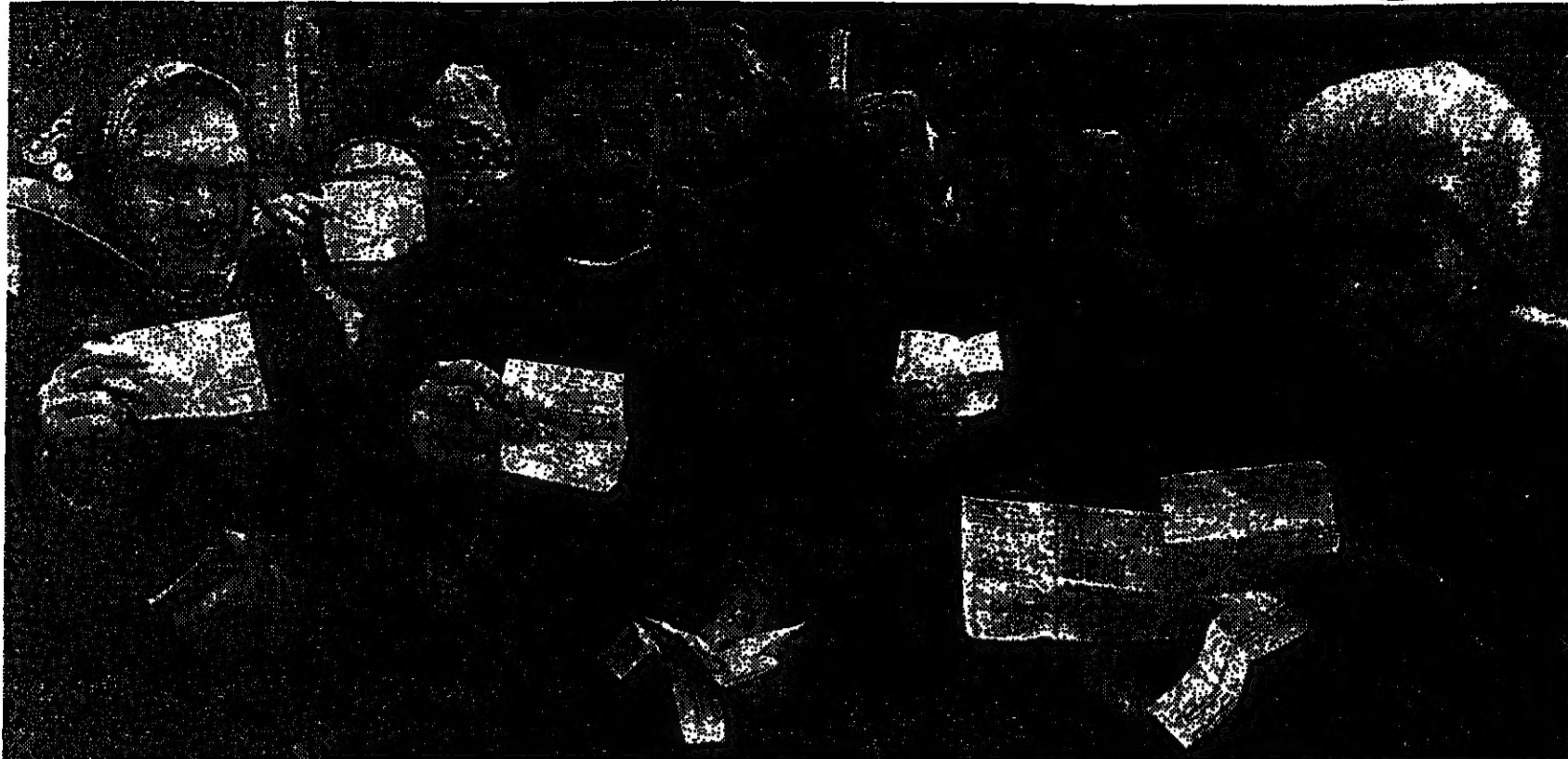
Would the old man be happy with the states that have been the standard-bearers of his ideas for the past 40 years? The centrally planned economy has failed to adjust to modern times and the communist leaders, with varying degrees of vigour and commitment, are smuggling bits of capitalism back into the system.

This is known as reform, or rather because the word suggests past failure, new economic measures, or set of measures or some similar combination. The game is Trojan horsemanship and Marx would not be amused.

But at least one Marxist tenet survives, albeit thanks to a political paradox: the worker, given a starring role in the drama of history by Marx, is still a revolutionary force. Not of course, in western societies where, most sociologists agree, he is *homo conservativus*, taking to the streets only in the cause of sectional interest, such as pit closures, but in the workers' and peasants' states of the Soviet bloc.

Only in Eastern Europe – in East Germany in 1953, in Hungary in 1956, in Poland in 1956, 1970 and 1980-81 have the workers posed a consistent threat to the survival of governments. Even when these uprisings are crushed, the working class continues to be the natural reservoir of discontent.

One Cracow journalist explained the phenomenon in the idiom of Aesop: "A rabbit goes into his local food shop and asks for oranges. 'No oranges',



Rationing warmth: The farming community in Poland have to present documents to claim their coal from the Government

comes the inevitable reply. 'Nie ma'. The rabbit returns on the morrow. The answer is still, 'Nie ma'. Unavailable.

"When on the third day the rabbit demands oranges, the queue grows restless. Perhaps the shopkeeper is hiding them? The shopkeeper becomes aggressive. 'Listen, rabbit, if you ask for oranges again, I am going to take my sharpest nails and pin your ears to the wall.'"

"On the fourth day, the rabbit reappears. 'Any nails?' he asks. 'Nie ma'. 'In that case', says the rabbit, 'are there any oranges?'"

And so it is, even after the destruction of free trade unions and the banning of Solidarity, in Poland. The workers still put forward impossible demands in the confidence that they will one day become possible. At the same time they adjust to the repressive potential of the state.

If the state can hurt you, then don't provoke it. If the state has the potential but not the confidence to hurt you, then carry on demanding.

It is this blend of realism – are there any nails? – and fantasy – are there any oranges? – that characterizes the worker in the workers' state.

Poland, of course, has the most volatile working class in the Soviet bloc. But workers throughout the communist world are being put under

strain. Accustomed to decades in which the basic minimum wage provided a security blanket for all and when bonuses for "over-fulfilment" of plans were almost inevitable, the worker has come to feel that whatever the quality of his labour he can get by comfortably.

The ambitious did work on the side, or joined the Communist Party to get accelerated promotion. The majority clocked in and clocked out.

In Erfurt, in East German Thuringia, one of the red banners says: "Me in Freund, der Plan". My friend, the plan.

In an Erfurt pub, Horst, a shift worker, described the odd sense of liberation: of inner emancipation that came from the old work system: "The point is, your brain stays at home. It's like the hippy nirvana. In the day you do the absolute minimum."

"Then if you want to double your salary or if the boss is worried about dropping below the plan targets, then you put in overtime. If you're happy on the basic pay, then you go home, still fresh."

"Look at the waitress. She is freed from the profit motive. She knows that she is going to be tipped next to nothing by boys doing military service. So she has a choice – she can gossip with the hat clerk and ignore us or she can take delight in her

job, make waitressing into a performing art."

Restoring the link between the quality of work and the actual level of wages is at the heart of the economic reform. Low productivity, a structural bias against innovation and wage inflation are the three main factors that not only prompt the need to reform but may also sabotage it.

If in doubt, listen to the bad, black jokes that come out of any Czech or Polish factory. "They pretend to pay us and we pretend to work", is a typical after-work comment. "They can't pay us any less than we can work."

Romania is going about its wage reform with the subtlety associated with the rule of the Ceausescus. A so-called national agreement has introduced two changes – workers are remunerated on the basis of their factory's results – if the output is higher than planned the salary is automatically higher, if lower then automatically lower – and the elimination of minimum wages.

The presumed aim is to persuade workers to work out of fear. This year, say union officials, about 70 per cent of industrial concerns have exceeded targets as a result. But the verbal evidence seems to be of sinking wages and plummeting living standards.

A basket-weaver writes, bemused, to western embassies asking for intervention at a high level. How can he keep up production when his supplies of raffia have not arrived?

Throughout the bloc, subsidies are being phased out and prices of food, refrigerators, cars are going up. The worker is having to work harder and harder.

At the same time, economic reform in its headlong sprint to earn hard currency for such heavily indebted countries as Hungary, Poland, Romania and non-aligned Yugoslavia, is allowing the social welfare state to run down.

Damp ancient hospital buildings where patients lie in the corridor, overcrowded classes, new housing estates with few shops and poor transport links, building projects that are started and abandoned for two or more years while fresh funds are found – the worker may well feel that the state is not honouring its part of the social contract.

The worker responds accordingly to his confidence in institutions that are supposed to represent him – trade unions, worker councils, employee consultation boards.

Often the worker ignores these official "transmission belts". In countries where there is a high likelihood of sacking – Czechoslovakia – or low politi-

cal consciousness – Bulgaria – the favoured expression of discontent is absenteeism or drunkenness or both.

In Romania or Poland the response is sometimes a work stoppage. The national agreement in Romania is said to have sparked off protests in a Brasov truck plant – the threat of instant dismissal resolved the problem – and in the mines in the Maramures province.

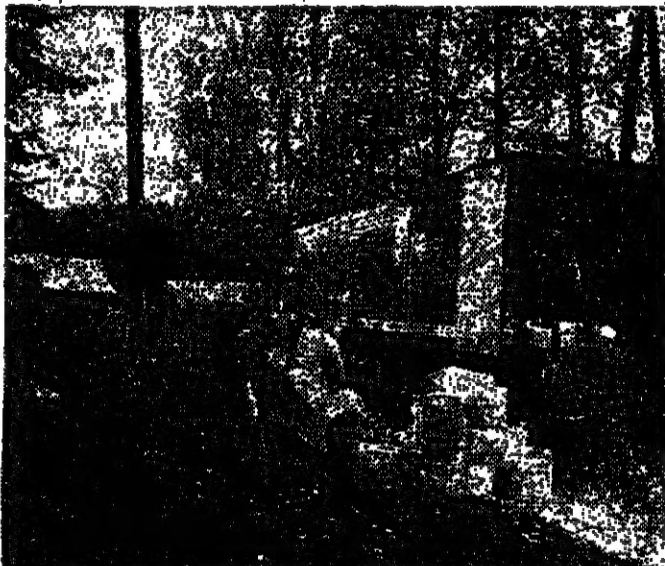
In Poland, in the post-Solidarity era, none of the official union have made use of the legal right to strike, but there have been unofficial stoppages.

The trend that is emerging is of an increasingly alert and intelligent working population who, under pressure to produce more and carry the burden of "reform", are growing restless at their treatment by governments which claim to represent worker states.

The old formulae – bring the workers into the party, make them co-responsible – and the dodges – import oranges, stock up with consumer goods – are failing. Marx's worker paradise should have arrived by now, but the radiant future has been postponed.

TOMORROW

How the young are looking West



Food for thought: A Polish potato farm (top), cheap fish in East Germany (centre), and relief from Britain's International Medical Aid for Poland (above)

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THE CASE FOR LIFE INSURANCE

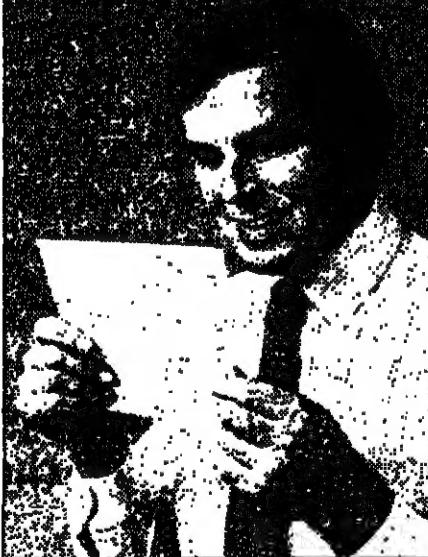
Most families need the protection life insurance provides. But life insurance can help you in so many other ways. Like buying your house with an endowment mortgage or earning a handsome return on your investment in a with-profit endowment policy. But only if you choose the right company.

INVESTMENT SKILL

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The profits from this investment come



to you in the form of generous annual, and sometimes special bonuses which, once allocated to you, can't be taken away so your investment keeps on growing.

Finally, an additional bonus provides the cream on the cake. And because Norwich Union is a mutual life company, with no shareholders, it is with-profit policyholders alone who benefit.

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Ask your financial adviser about it. Ask him to show you Norwich Union's performance record over the past years.

It'll be your most reliable guide

to all those reasons why you're better off the Norwich way.



Collision source

In 1912 an in-repud Austrian scientist by the name of Victor Hess, took radi-ation detectors aloft in balloons to heights of 10km. He discovered "cosmic rays" – a continuous rain of high-frequency subatomic particles that falls through the atmosphere to Earth and sometimes continues into it. Later investigations showed that the showers of cosmic rays originate when high-energy particles from outer space collide with the atoms and molecules of the upper atmosphere.

These subatomic aliens are mainly the nuclei of atoms. For the most part they are protons – nuclei of the simplest atom, hydrogen, which is also the most abundant element throughout the universe. However, experiments have shown that the primary cosmic rays contain heavier nuclei, including silicon and iron which are formed at the hearts of huge stars, at least 10 times as massive as the sun. Such stars ultimately die in violent explosions known as "supernovae", which may fling their contents, from hydrogen nuclei to iron, out into space to become cosmic rays. Some studies suggest that at certain higher energies iron nuclei become more important, though not all researchers agree.

In the 1920s physicists studying cosmic radiation reaching the ground discovered that the rays contained a penetrating component, which could pass through several centimetres of lead. We now know that these penetrating rays are "muons" – subatomic particles similar to electrons but some 200 times as heavy. Cosmic-ray muons can in fact travel through many metres of earth, as an experiment in the London Underground at Holborn has shown. More recently, Soviet scientists in particular have been keen to put this property of cosmic radiation to solid use in studies of the composition of ground just below the earth's surface.

Muon detectors buried below ground can measure variations in intensity of the penetrating radiation, caused by differing amounts of absorbing matter above the instruments. They can reveal unsuspected natural tunnels and regions of varying density.

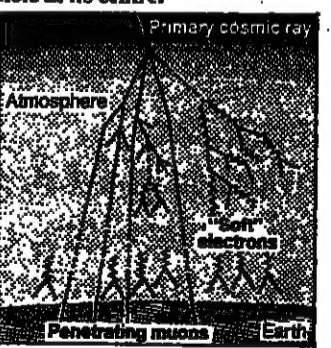
Universal mystery

The origin of the cosmic radiation remains a topic of great debate. In general, the magnetic fields that permeate our galaxy should mix up the cosmic rays to the extent that they appear to rain down on earth equally from all directions. But even the question of whether the rays all originate within our galaxy or come from still further afield is far from being answered conclusively.

Research teams from West Germany and Brighton have reported evidence that Cygnus X-3, a violent emitter of X-rays within our Milky Way galaxy, might be a source of high-energy cosmic rays. But the possibility that the cosmic rays are messengers from more distant parts of the universe remains.

A series reporting on research: COSMIC RAYS

A recent analysis of data collected by the University of Adelaide suggests a slight excess of cosmic radiation from the direction of Centaurus A, a remarkably active galaxy visible from the southern hemisphere. At the very highest energies, the cosmic rays seem to come from the general direction of the cluster of galaxies in the constellation Virgo, which includes a giant galaxy, M87, believed to have a huge black hole at its centre.



How cosmic rays form muons that penetrate the earth

Tunnel vision

In the 1920s physicists studying cosmic radiation reaching the ground discovered that the rays contained a penetrating component, which could pass through several centimetres of lead. We now know that these penetrating rays are "muons" – subatomic particles similar to electrons but some 200 times as heavy. Cosmic-ray muons can in fact travel through many metres of earth, as an experiment in the London Underground at Holborn has shown. More recently, Soviet scientists in particular have been keen to put this property of cosmic radiation to solid use in studies of the composition of ground just below the earth's surface.

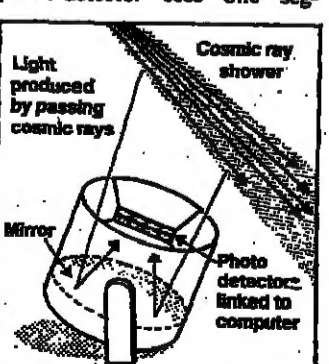
Muon detectors buried below ground can measure variations in intensity of the penetrating radiation, caused by differing amounts of absorbing matter above the instruments. They can reveal unsuspected natural tunnels and regions of varying density.

Eye of the fly

Cosmic-ray detectors come in all shapes and sizes, but many are big – big enough to capture and record the rare particles with the highest energies, for these are perhaps the most enigmatic and therefore the

most interesting. These ultra-high-energy particles generate large showers of secondary cosmic rays when they strike the atmosphere. As many as 10,000 million shower particles can reach sea-level. A standard technique is to use an array of several large-area particle detectors, spread over an area of several square kilometres. Each detector gives the density of particles at different points on the array. The results are combined to calculate the overall density, from which the energy of the primary particle can be estimated.

A different technique underlies the so-called "fly's eye" detectors, set up in the Dugway Desert in Utah. The larger of the two "eyes" consists of 67 mirrors, each 1.5m in diameter, supported in large dustbin-like containers. The mirrors focus the very faint light generated in the atmosphere by the passage of a cosmic-ray shower onto photo-sensitive detectors. Each photo-detector sees one seg-



How cosmic rays are detected by the light they generate

ment of the sky, rather as a fly's compound eye does – hence the name.

A very different detector is called MURON and is run by a group of Japanese researchers. This contains two 400-tonne iron magnets, to bend the paths of incoming cosmic-ray muons. It also includes 120 tonnes of iron in a "target" designed to intercept the muons and force them to react. Together the apparatus provides a powerful means of measuring directly the energies of cosmic-ray muons.

Quark quest

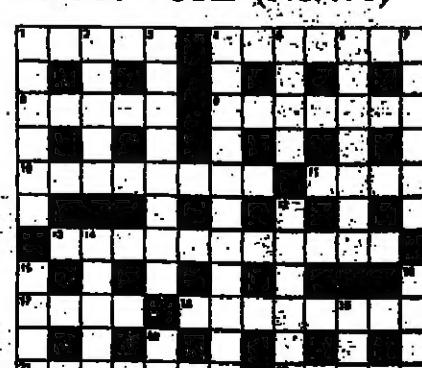
Research over the past 20 years has indicated that the basic building blocks of matter are not the protons and neutrons found in atomic nuclei, but objects known as quarks. The quarks make up the observed protons and neutrons by clustering together in bunches of three. So far no experiment has shown conclusive evidence for the existence of single quarks, but in the late 1960s Brian McCusker at the University of Sydney claimed to have found a quark in a detector studying cosmic-ray showers.

McCusker's evidence has been criticized over the years; recently he has published a rebuttal of this criticism. By combining his results with those on other novel phenomena in the cosmic radiation he also estimates the number of quarks arriving at sea level.

Dr Christine Sutton

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No.471)

- ACROSS
1 Close fitting (5)
4 Clumped (7)
8 Light dispenser (5)
9 Original Americans (7)
10 Inquiry response (8)
11 Pack (4)
13 Resplendence (11)
17 Torn cloth (4)
18 Deftly (8)
21 Step by step (7)
22 Vacant (5)
23 Plant support (7)
24 Awareness (5)



- DOWN
1 Confidential warning (3,3)
2 Scar (5)
3 Pre-set explosive (4,4)
4 Prince Charles (6,2,5)
5 Charities (4)
6 Dire (7)

- 7 Deny (6)
12 Not causing distress (6)
13 Spiky flower (5)
14 Suitcases (7)
15 Vivid (6)
16 Breakwater (6)
19 Spiky flower (5)
20 Brimming (4)

Recommended dictionary is the New Collins Concise

Home and a heart for 27 children

Alan Franks meets the modern day equivalent of the old woman who lived in a shoe and her family aged from their twenties to three-month-old twins

The old woman who lived in a shoe, has nothing on Jeanette Roberts, who lives in East London. She has a family of 27 children, 18 of whom are still living at home on a weekly housekeeping bill of £600. She is not married, although she was engaged more than 20 years ago. She broke it off because her fiancé wanted four children and she wanted none.

The oldest child is now 27, and the youngest are twins of three. Many have a mental or physical handicap.

For a while, the general assumption in the streets of the neighbourhood was that the house - two large four-storey buildings knocked through into one - was a children's home; youngsters and adolescents of all shapes and sizes coming and going down the front steps; the house fairly pulsating with activity from roof to basement and a district nurse living in.

Of course the extraordinary Roberts ménage is a home for children, but not in the institutional sense. All the children are called Roberts and they all refer to her as Mum. Eleven of the present 18 are fostered, and the remaining seven adopted. The ones who do not belong to the second category would like to know, Jeanette herself would gladly go along with this even though it would mean running into the classic *Catch 22* of adoption, whereby the fostering allowance has to be foregone and the income of the house diminished.

Not only are the Robertses the ultimate one-parent unit, they are also a model family, paradoxical though that may sound; for new inmates are now considered by Jeanette, in consultation with the others, with a view to whether they would fit in with the existing structure. With three 17-year-olds, this age group is fully subscribed. But a baby? There is a jolly chorus of "ES!" all around her in the living room, and she gives a rather stoical smile.

All the children here come from broken homes. You ask one teenage girl to describe the environment from which she came, and she can't do it. She is articulate, almost glib, but it's no good. She thinks for a very long time and says: "I don't really know what to say." And then at last: "Hell." Twelve come from children's homes, with referrals from a variety of local authorities; the rest have either been orphaned or are the victims of parental violence and abuse.

Some have been through more moves in their short lives than they can remember. Maybe they have disrupted home after home, or maybe they have driven a wedge between a set of foster parents and their natural children. Whatever the history, the chances are that by the time

they arrive on the threshold of the Roberts family, they will be confused, damaged and scarred.

The philosophy upon which Jeanette bases her household is devastatingly simple; it is to turn that very damage into a source of collective strength. "Take a difficult child, who has come from a broken home. The first thing he'll try to do is destroy the relationship between his foster parents. We have one here who has worked his way through several couples. Now, it's very difficult for parents to cope if it is their own children who suffer as a result of this; my children on the other hand, are stronger because of their experience. They expect that behaviour from children coming into the family, because they know what they were like themselves. The boy I'm talking about - he knows very well that the others have been hurt too."

The lad in question warms to his life story. "When I came here I was 10, and my first reaction was to get one over on them. You know, be the boss. I thought I was Jack the Lad, and a bit flash. I had to tone it down a bit. In the children's home I used to get up to all sorts of things - wreck the place, swear a lot. Yes of course I got told off, but I didn't take no notice. Just



ignored it. Here Mum explained to me what I was doing wrong, and I learnt that I couldn't get away with it.

It may all sound rather glib-like the confessions of criminals reformed through the influence of Christian piety. But it's hard to dismiss the evidence of your eyes, even on a brief visit to the family; the older ones are clearly not just playing with their younger siblings - they are looking after them, minding them, particularly the little Down's Syndrome toddlers, in a way they might never do if the family were smaller and the mother therefore more available.

By any standards Jeanette Roberts is an extraordinary story, although neither she nor any of her family is having that. "People don't seem to accept that we're just a big family,"

There's nothing special about us."

It all started when Jeanette, who is 44, was a district nurse in her twenties, and began a children's club in the local mission hall. Soon after this she was offered a one-bedroom flat so that she could take in needy or deprived children in the evenings. During that time she was approached by Family Service Units to take in a very difficult child of 14, and then another of five. From there it was a move to a two-bedroom house and the whole thing began to snowball.

When I had six, I was asked to take a pair of two-year-olds. I felt I just couldn't cope, but I agreed to have them for a month. When after that time a place hadn't been found for them, I couldn't bring myself to part with them, so they stayed. When I was up to 10, I thought no way can I take any more. The next time a child comes knocking at my door, I'm afraid the answer's going to have to be no.

It did not quite work out that way; the next child was Jeanette's own nephew. "He made me look at the whole thing all over again and well..."

A sweep of the arm round the room explains the rest. Only last month there was a new arrival, a 12-year-old boy who, one of the tabloid newspapers said wrongly, had slithered down to make himself more attractive for his TV appeal for a home.

When asked how she has coped, the answer is again very simple: "How I cope is, I enjoy it. As much as I give to them, they give back to me."

There is an air of democracy in the place. Every morning there is a family meeting after morning prayers, when problems can be aired. "It may be that a child is out of line in his behaviour, and I say: 'Let's have a look at this.' Or perhaps another child needs extra help. I'll give you an example. Two twins, one extrovert, the other introvert. The extrovert one was getting all the attention. I had been watching this for weeks and noticing that he was coming along great guns, while the other one was sitting playing on his own most of the time. So I pointed this out to the rest of the family. I only had to say it once, and it soon evened up."

Integration is not always easy, and she reckons that children often need anything between six months and two years to settle down fully. Then there is the matter of money. Although there are the local authority fostering allowances - anything between £13 and £80 a week, depending on the referring borough - and although Joyce, the resident district nurse gives her salary back to the household, the outgoings are phenomenal. Once there was a slight miscalculation by the electricity board; it had undercharged by £1,000 and the



"I want my children to grow up and marry happily so they can give me masses of grandchildren"

Happy family: Jeanette is pictured (centre) with some of her children and resident nurse Joyce

Roberts had four weeks to pay up or be disconnected. In the end they were helped out by the church down the road, which, like the Springboard Housing Association, is a staunch ally.

Does the family feel the absence of a father figure? "I do really," says Jeanette. "I do encourage them to establish good relationships with men if they can. They have very good friendships with their teachers, for example, and with the minister next door. Don't forget we've got the older boys of 23 and 25 coming in to visit; these are the children's brothers, so there's that contact too."

"I would agree that the ideal family unit is based on a mother and father, but only provided that they are living in harmony and looking after their children. With any one-parent family, you substitute the absence with what you can, and the different needs are differently filled. There isn't any one person that plays the father role to all of them. There are lots of men around, who are important to them either as a group or as individuals."

"Is this, finally, full house?" "Well, if someone said you take a baby, everyone here would probably want it because

they already keep telling me. 'Mum, there aren't any babies.'"

But if an older child came knocking on the door? "I've already had to do that heart-breaking thing of saying no..." A pause. Not so much a dodging of the question as a changing of the subject. "What I want is for my children to grow up and marry happily so they can give me masses of grandchildren."

Parents for Children, the adoption agency which has placed seven children with the Roberts family, is at 222 Camden High Street, London NW1.

PENNY PERRICK

Why you can't bring granny to book

My own grandmother's need for something called *The Grandparents' Handbook - A Practical Guide to Enjoying the New Generation*, would have been minimal. Unaware that there might be rules to this particular game, she just rushed in and brought me up.

In her unselfconscious attitude to her grandmotherly role, she was exactly like those black-clad and toothless grandmothers seen throughout the poorer parts of Europe who act as unpaid childminders, so that their grandchild's parents can go out to work.

Unlike them, she wore bright red lipstick and beaded evening dresses and dyed her hair a vibrant orange until she was 84. She would not have recognised herself in the *Handbook*. It acknowledges that the average age at which people in the western hemisphere are called to grandparenthood is 47 - younger than Brigitte Bardot and Paul Newman - but it is illustrated with pictures of white-haired, bespectacled old dacks.

Helen Oxenbury paints the same doddery picture in her children's book, *Gran and Grandpa*. Her pensioned-off grandparents are indulgent and cosy, with all the time in the world to read stories and play hospitals.

This is a pleasing but unlikely scenario. Most women with young grandchildren are still working and, since the concept of grandmaternity leave is not part of our culture, few modern grandparents are able to be a constant, companionable presence in a small child's life.

In fact, an American study reported in the *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, in 1977, revealed that one-third of grandparents interviewed were remote, uninvolved or unconcerned with their role.

Can one blame them? For would a closer acquaintance with their grandchildren lead to future heartache, should the break-up of a marriage mean that the children born of it were whisked off to somewhere beyond grandparental reach?

Perhaps they are aware of another report, the one that claimed that out of 100 children interviewed, 47 had either infrequent access or no access to the non-custodial parent.

One wonders where that leaves the non-custodial grandparent. Wearing out their eyes looking at old snapshots of lost grandchildren and mailing birthday cards that come back marked "Return to Sender", one suspects.

If I didn't know from personal experience that the grandmother-grandchild bond can be

both poignant and powerful, the Grandmothers Group of Argentina would have convinced me.

These are women who refuse to allow outrage to be tidied up, who go on and on in the search for grandchildren stolen from their parents under Galtieri's regime and given to his supporters as their real fathers and mothers were tortured to death and flung into a mass grave.

Thanks to the grandmothers' efforts, 17 children have been identified and returned.

By now, a battery of psychologists and sociologists are probably debating whether this sort of tragic retrieval is in the best interests of the children. But their language is not one that grandmothers can understand.

Although I was never in danger of kidnap, my grandmother, until she died earlier this year, found it an agony to let me out of her sight. Her explanation was: "You are my whole world."

Remembering this, I understand the Argentine grandmothers' refusal to forget, their need for vengeance and their unshakable conviction that their unseen, unknown grandchildren are theirs by right.

Whenever we Earl's Court computers think there isn't room for one more shop to tout for custom on our bustling streets, another emporium opens its doors. The latest is devoted to interior design and is called *Stylite*.

The centrepiece of its window display, in the unimpeachable end of the Old Brompton Road, is a pale and pretty object labelled "Two-and-a-half-seater sofa".

For whom can it be designed? Why all these people who produce 15 children, of course. Not to mention all those others who do everything by half: "Just half a cup for me, please." "Do you do this wine by the half-bottle?"

They buy their clothes whenever they see the sign, "Everything reduced by half" and stay down-pension at hotels to which they have flown at special half-price fares.

They like half-and-half drinks - spritzers, Black Velvet and lemonade shandies - and are often to be seen half off. If you suggest that this is not an entirely satisfactory way of life, they will say half-jokingly that you don't know the half of it.

● The Grandparents' Handbook, to be published in November by Pegasus Books, £8.95 hardback, £4.95 paperback. Gran and Grandpa by Helen Oxenbury, published by Walker Books, £2.95.

Caroline Moorehead talks to Lady Metcalfe whose father was Viceroy of India almost 80 years ago

Daughter of the raj who is a jewel in the crown

Whenever Lady Alexandra Metcalfe, youngest and only surviving daughter of Lord Curzon, visits India a small paragraph unfailingly appears in the *Times of India*: "Viceroy's daughter returns." Though Curzon left India, after six years as Viceroy, nearly 80 years ago, the memory of what he did to preserve and restore the country's palaces and monuments lives on in the pages of histories and in the patter of guides. Even if Lady Alexandra has made herself quite another India, far removed from the viceregal turn-of-the-century splendour,

she never fails to be touched by the enduring appreciation for what her father did. "Everywhere I go," she says, "everyone I speak to: there are so many traces of him left."

Lady Alexandra was born in London, in March, 1904, her mother having come home from Delhi for the birth. She was christened Alexandra at the request of the Queen, whose god-daughter she became. All her life she has been known as "Baba". She was taken to India while still a baby and believes her first memory is of Simla. "A nanny was pushing me

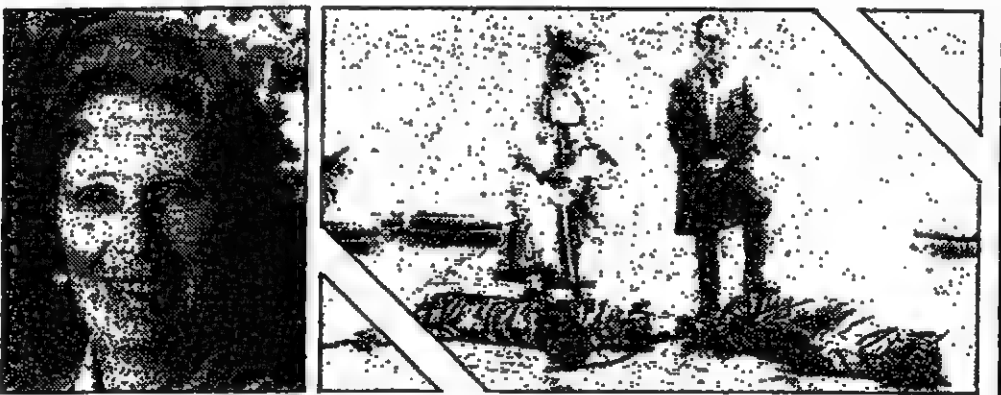
through an arch, and there was a magnificent guard saluting." Those times were not to last. Well before her third birthday, Lord Curzon's days as viceroy were over, ending unhappily in some bitterness with Kitchener, and her mother, aged just 36, was dead. The tremendous heat of India and her formidable duties as vicereine, her daughter believes, had destroyed her health.

But India remained. As viceroy, Curzon had been presented with countless treasures: to these he had added a fine collection of his own. Everything he could bring back came to their house in London and to the various country houses he rented while his three daughters were young. Of these, the eldest, Irene, became Lady Ravensdale; the second, Cynthia, became Lady Mosley.

"He remained obsessed by India," she says. "He had been there first immediately after Oxford and declared: 'I shall come back here as viceroy.' He talked about it all the time, even when he was dying. Then he had volumes and volumes of photographs and went through them with me."

Whatever he forgot was filled in for her by the letters and diaries, so carefully preserved, brought home in a leather trunk. "What amazes me is the way my mother, racked by headaches, in that fearful heat, when the plains were like a furnace, and in those clothes, could write at all. But that's what she did, day after day. And my father wrote everything himself, by hand, even lists of underclothes, saying that secretaries couldn't spell."

Today, with the photograph of her father that sits on her



Lady Metcalfe (left) and her father triumphant after a tiger shoot

drawing room table on its jacket, a lavishly illustrated book appears, *A Viceroy's India*, culled from two early memoirs of her father's.

The India that Lady Alexandra created for herself has been a very different place. There was one last fling of grandeur when, after 13 govern-

Lama left Tibet, with 80,000 followers. The Indian government asked the fund for help with the children who accompanied them. "I went out to Simla, where we were first offered the house my father used at weekends," she says, adding, in a sort of parenthesis, that she believes she was conceived there, in a tent.

"That wasn't quite right, so we took another and then Stirling Castle, where I had been, came on the market and the SCF bought that. We took in 500 children. I went to Lord Siff and asked him to make me 500 suits of clothes and new shoes for them to greet His Holiness."

Since then Lady Alexandra has travelled constantly around India for the fund. She has sat on every one of their committees and is now vice-president, as well as chairman of the overseas committee. "I am," she declares, "their very oldest member. They keep me as their history; I remember things." At 80, Lady Alexandra is a tall, stately figure of considerable elegance; her drawing room is filled with portraits and photographs and small Indian objects cover low tables.

As the only surviving child, and the one with an interest in her parents' history, Lady Alexandra has for many years

been custodian of not just her family past, but of a wider moment of British colonial times. It is she who has organized the papers, gone through the 42 volumes of letters, arranged for her mother's famous dresses - including the renowned Peacock dress, made by Worth for the Delhi Durbar - to go on show, and answered a lifetime of questions from biographers and historians.

And not just on India. "Fruity" was best man at Edward VIII's wedding and probably his closest man friend. He looked after his stables, hunters, sleepchairs and polo ponies. But she does not speak of this, saying that she squashes all questions and has said all there is to say. Their marriage was dissolved in 1955.

She is delighted to talk about her father and India, however. Several times she says that her great regret is that Curzon was dead before her own India started, so that she was never able to share it with him. "What baffles me," she says, "is this endless fascination with India. I understand it. It was my past. But why does it go on and on? And when will it ever stop?"

A Viceroy's India: Leaves from Lord Curzon's Notebook, published today by Sidgwick & Jackson, £12.95.



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THE ARTS

Holly Hill raises the curtain for the new Broadway season
Vintage year for Middlebrow

'Pacific Overtures' sails into town again

Highbrow, Middlebrow and Lowbrow huddled in a corner of the skyscraper bar, Middlebrow, who admitted to being sentimental, had chosen the site because an overview of the New York City's bright lights befit their annual prospective on the new theatrical season. They looked around periodically to make certain they were not recognized. The memory lingered of the year that Pseudo-Intellectual died of shock upon discovering them enjoying each other's company.

Lowbrow, a tired businessman, ordered a Martini. The professorial Highbrow asked for Glenmorangie and Middlebrow, a matinee lady, sipped the house white wine.

"I don't know why we agreed to trade categories this year," grumbled Low. "I was quite comfortable with Musicals and Comedies, and I've never heard of half the play revivals and British imports Mid usually reports on. My wife had to explain most of them."

"Why should you be in such a bad mood?" asked High. "I'm not complaining that I had to do your assignments. One advantage is that I don't have to hear your scurrilous comments on Stephen Sondheim."

"Not necessarily," Low replied. "I faked 'Du to miss Sunday in the Park, but there is an Off-Broadway revival of Pacific Overtures and the New York City Opera, which my wife loves, is doing Sweeney Todd."

"Never mind," High said condescendingly. "There are some musicals to cheer you up - though I

can't say they do much for me. There is a new version of *The Three Musketeers*. *Diamonds are Forever*, a Harold Prince staging of a celebration of baseball, *Quilters*, about American pioneer women, *Harlem Nocturne*, a story in rhythm and blues starring André De Shields.

"Oh, he was that sinuous young black singer-dancer who made me think of the snake tempting Eve when he was in *Ain't Misbehavin'*," Mid interrupted.

"And those are set to open before the first of the year," continued High. "Later possibilities are *Annie, Part II*, Jerry's Girls, a revue by Jerry Herman of Tony-winning *La Cage aux Folles* fame, *Treasure Island*, with music by Jule Styne, *Blackheads*, that one London sees first, a collaboration between the New York Times columnist and humourist Russell Baker and the composer Cy Coleman called *Baker's Broadway*, *Victor/Victoria* starring Julie Andrews, musicals about the producer Mike Todd and about the vaudeville team of Harrigan and Hart, and revivals of *Fanny and Gert*."

"Statistically, of course, two-thirds of those will never make it into town," Low commented. "They tried to get me to invest in *Chaplin* last year. Close escape."

"There are not many new comedies," High concluded. "Most exciting is the premiere here of *Deaf*, Fox's *Accidental Death of an Anarchist*, though there is as much drama

offstage as on there because our imbecile politicians are resisting pressure to lift the ban on Dario Fo entering the US because he is labelled a Communist. Two other Broadway comedies are a new version of Neil Simon's *The Odd Couple* written for women, and the sequel to his *Brighton Beach Memoirs*."

"Oh, I hope he has a success with the sequel," Mid exclaimed. "Neil Simon puts so much of himself into his plays, and in *Brighton Beach* his comic spirits seemed at last to have defeated his mean spirits. But since then his marriage broke up, and he didn't even get nominated for a Tony for *Brighton Beach*, and I wonder what that will have done to his writing."

"You always know the gossip," Low said with a chuckle.

"Well, if you want me to be serious, I'll tell you what dramas are coming up," Mid said. "Oh, stop kidding. You can always fake it. But there is Martin Sherman's new drama *Messiah* - remember, he wrote *Bent* - at the Manhattan Theatre Club, staged by the British director David Leveaux."

"I knew you couldn't resist mentioning something British," Low chided. "Before I give you more, how about some good old American revivals? Like two by Tennessee Williams on Broadway - *Gina*, Lolobrigida in *The Rose Tattoo* and *Orpheus Descending*."

"Plus Frank Langella in Arthur Miller's *After the Fall* and

Hal Holbrook in *Odets's The Country Girl*."

"Now here is your favourite part, Mid. British imports include the Royal Shakespeare Company's tour of *Much Ado About Nothing* and *Cyano de Bergerac*, which opened this weekend, and Alec McCowen in *Kipling*. David Pownall's *Master Class*, will have an American cast, and you may get to see Alan Bates in *A Patriot for Me* to say nothing of *Pack of Lies*. Happy?"

"Except I've saved some of the best for last - High's usual report on Joseph Papp's Public Theater schedule." Mid replied with a slight smirk.

"You'll be glad to know you can see Kate Nelligan, Low, at the Public playing Virginia Woolf in *Virginia*. Also Jessica Fandy in Louise Page's *Salonica*, David Hare's staging of his *A Map of the World* and the Royal Court production of *Tom and Viv*. And, just in case you think I'm an Anglophile, Mr Papp is presenting new comedies by Christopher Durang and Albert Innaurato, two of our most promising playwrights. Can I still call them promising?"

"I think they're under 35 - barely - so they can be promising," High reflected.

"I suppose it's false optimism, but I don't feel as gloomy about the theatre as I did this time last year," Mid said. "If I'm right, this could be a vintage year."

"Of the usual sound, and fluffy, signifying not nearly enough," High mused. "When shall we three meet again?"

Television

There were moments in *Big Deal* last night when non-gamblers might have appreciated a glossary but, despite the monkeys, the ponies and the Cockney slang, if the rest of this ten-part series is as good as the first, then BBC1 is on to a winner.

Writer Geoff McQueen's hero is Bobby Box, 40 years old, with a lifetime of uncertainties behind and before, his poker face not only disguising the cards in his hand but the insecurities in his heart.

He lives in a world of dogs, horses, and, mainly, cards, coming home to consume the newly delivered milk and wash away the night's accumulation of spilt smoke. Ray Brooks plays him superbly and, given that his predicament is self-inflicted, winningly. The supporting cast, particularly Sharon Duce, as his girlfriend, and Pamela Cundell, as his mother, are excellent.

Mr McQueen, author of last year's snooker-based series, *Give Us a Break*, has con-

structed a man apparently on the edge of fragmentation. He is threatened by the up-and-coming hard men and his own declining stamina; pulled one way by his habit and the other by his belated recognition that there is something desirable in the stability he has shunned.

Terence Loughlin's direction was taut and Mike Southon's photography conveyed the morning-after atmosphere powerfully and, as we were savouring it via Mr Box, enjoyably.

Paul McCartney is around the same age as Mr Box and has enough money to ensure that where there is a whim there is a way. Currently, he fancies filmmaking. *Give My Regards to Broad Street* which he has written and in which he stars, is a musical fantasy based on someone like himself. On LWT's *South Bank Show*, he talked about it to Melvyn Bragg and we were let into the making of it.

Mr McCartney talked about composing and his doubts

"There is one side of me saying 'Come on you are just posing, I don't want to do something just because it is money' but all in all, reality fell short of expectation."

Something of the same sort of feeling must have afflicted William Shawcross in BBC2's *River Journeys*. He was travelling up the Mekong, which the Vietnamese, optimistically rather than aply, call "The River of Solidarity". He obtained permission after two years of negotiation.

He found himself hindered and frustrated by officialdom and police guards. At the second attempt he made it into Cambodia but Laos, though controlled by the Vietnamese, said no.

It was, therefore, a distracted trip with many diversions but some interesting reflections from Mr Shawcross on war and police states which may make future negotiations, even longer.

Dennis Hackett

Opera

Le Nozze di Figaro
Glyndebourne

It looks as though Sir Peter Hall's 1973 production of *Figaro*, newly realized for Glyndebourne Touring Opera by Roger Williams, will be a good traveller. There is nothing eccentric about it. Every action in what can be (and is intended to be) a confusing plot is made as clear as possible. In the ensembles everyone dutifully stands immobile and apart, and elsewhere the quickfire recitative is executed smoothly.

There is, in fact, but one distraction: the superlatives, those projected mini-translations that have caused ripples of controversy in the operatic world. These are useful if you know nothing of the language or the plot, but the idea has brought with it some problems, not least among them eye-

strain. The précis itself seems strangely half-colloquial, not to say twee, in places, and the timing is as yet not quite right. Those are but rough edges that can be tidied up, however, and I am sure that the practice, disturbing though it may be to cognoscenti, will, like the whole production, win opera new friends.

Lothar Zagrosek, making his house debut, conducts with wit and articulates the slower music, trying to control the destiny of his world but comically failing. Rita Cullis's Countess correspondingly rises imperiously from being downtrodden to being fairly dominant. But the smaller parts, as I have already implied, are far from vocally inferior. The towns on the itinerary are in for a treat.

Stephen Pettitt

Theatre in Britain

A play that never raises its voice

Tea in a China Cup
Riverside

"I'll be a girl," says the clairvoyant brusquely to the pregnant Belfast woman, "and neither of you will have your sorrows to seek". Thirty years later in 1972, Beth (Caroline Embling) is watching her mother die, her own marriage to a whizzkid businessman in ruins and her city shuddering with the sounds of war; and by the time of this last funeral, even the cemetery keeps Catholics and Protestants apart.

This lovely play, moving and passionate without ever needing to raise its voice, won Christina Reid a Thames Television award and a place as writer-in-residence at the Lyric, Belfast. *Sphinx*, a new women's collective, snapped it up after a reading at Riverside earlier this year. During Beth's lifetime, her Protestant family have to move from genteel contempt for "Teagues" through resentment at increasing equality to, finally, fearing for their houses and lives. But what emerges from this affectionate domestic

Caroline Embling, James Aidan and Margaret D'Arcy

chronicle is Ms Reid's alarm at women's acquiescence in a role, theme that boldly holds together a big span of subjects from the most public to the most personal.

Grandmother sends her only son off to die at 19 at Dunkirk, and Mother wants to spend her last days within sight and sound of Twelfth parade rehearsals. With her inherited respect for possessions and security, Beth marries for looks and money only to find that a speculator is just her gambler father writ large, while her Catholic friend Theresa (Theresa Goden) is stuck in London with a child and no money.

Their adolescent talk earlier on is both touching and funny (if babies are just God's gift to married women, why do Catholics have more?). But, as someone observes, women giggle a lot before marriage but stop soon after. Yet you are supposed to wear old wedding rings for luck. Luck?

The play comes as close to writing off all men as fickle or aggressive, but tenderly genuine

The Beaux' Stratagem
Arts, Cambridge

No intentional revenge, of course; but London audiences stayed away from Bill Pryde's fascinating *Back to Methuselah* when it came to the Shaw, and now the Cambridge Theatre Company's production of Farquhar's great last comedy will end its tour at Warwick. A great pity: it is swift, intelligent and thoroughly entertaining.

It is easy (fairly easy) to make the disguised fortune-hunters and none-too-handsome faces with heads shaven beneath their

wigs, but then their finery is only mating plumage to ensnare wealth. Though commanding and quick-witted, Ian Gelder's Archer lacks charm. But the production confidently breaks its farcical momentum for the seriousness that a dying, unhappy married playwright could not help putting into it. And even Susan Brown's sparkle and vitality seem ironic in retrospect when Mrs Sullen describes the misery of a woman, who has gained neither riches, sexual satisfaction nor companionship by her marriage.

Sullen, the morose married, so, could emerge as faintly sympathetic - a natural bachelor driven further into boozing



Donald Cooper

performances like these compel assent: Caroline Embling embracing independence with tremulous strength, Theresa Boden (Theresa) witty and courageous, Margaret D'Arcy (Grandmother) laying out an

old gaffer's corpse with a mixture of old wives' ritual and cursing contempt, and Mary Duddy (Mother) facing the end with smiling resignation.

Anthony Masters

by marital incompatibility - but George Sweeney is allowed to show none of that. Tessa Peake-Jones, a practised Ayrickhour actress, gives Dorinda integrity as well as wit and can expect better things from Michael Hadley's blue-eyed devotion. Ken Morley's priest of dubious pedigree contrives an astonishing hybrid accent of Killarney and Brussels, and Douglas Hodge makes a beautifully timed comic cadenza from Scrub's elaborate failure to discover anything at all about the mysterious strangers destined to capture Lichfield's women and their loot.

AM

Concerts

ness/Radiance was even thinner, and so rather too heavy a burden of responsibility was placed on the Cage antics in the second half. Admittedly, there was a certain charm in seeing Cage's indeterminacy turned into an excuse for party games, with performers picking numbers out of a drum or throwing dice in order to be told what to do next. The circus also included some modest accounts of the composer's greatest hits: the *Aria* for many-voiced stunts, the hard-brained stunt *Water Walk*, the inevitable *4'33"* and some of the early Satie-like piano music. But the accomplishment has to be a lot keener and the style a great deal slicker.

Paul Griffiths

BBC SO/Elder
Festival Hall/Radio 3

He wraps a childish tune in ripe harmonies, filtering them through clouds of sumptuous orchestration that are precisely calculated so that the provocative naivety of his basic theme is never obscured. He appropriates with cheerful eclecticism recognizable traits of half a century ago - Berg and Weill would have felt flattered, and Gerstwin too, perhaps.

Splashes of dramatic nostalgia come in the shape of muted waltzes, and from the surreal prominence of an alto saxophone in an otherwise conventional orchestra. Meanwhile the solo part is shaped into an impeccably idiomatic rhapsody.

Dominic Muldowney has certainly ensured that his Piano Concerto, premiered at last year's Proms, does not lack content. Nor is it short of form

perhaps one should say forms, for the 25-minute work offers an extraordinary, almost pedagogical procession of chorale preludes, passacaglia; fugue, even a miniature theme-and-variations. The ear relished this variety, and with Peter Donohoe investing the solo part with a poet that swept the metrical complexities into a magnificent lyrical flow the concerto succeeded on a sensual level throughout.

Muldowney's starting-point, his "chorale", does pose a problem though. It launches his argument well enough, but its curious banality is a barrier to its metamorphosis into a satisfactory finale. So the word fades just when one wants the intriguing threads and allusions to be drawn together. One follows the spider's web inwards, only to find the centre blown away.

The contrast with Rachmaninov's "The Bell", descending with majestic inevitability from the silver tinkle of birth to the dolorous knell of death, was considerable. Mark Elder elicited a vibrant, superbly taut performance from orchestra and choir (BBC Symphony Chorus, London Philharmonic Choir). The bells of terror might have swung more brazenly with a more full-throated Slavonic choral tone, but there was a glorious, compensating warmth in the wedding peal, where Nelly Miricioiu floated a gorgeous descent over to the ensemble. However Yuri Masurok, weighty and impassioned, rightly provided the dominant memory in the great finale which seems to be the summation of every death scene in Russian music.

Richard Morrison

PUBLISHING

Glorious product

The book trade is up in arms. More so than at any time since 1962, when the net book agreement was successfully defended in the restrictive practices court. The trade has got wind - a widge here, a wink there - that the Chancellor of the Exchequer plans to exercise his right with his next Budget to exempt books from being zero-rated, and to have Parliament levy Value Added Tax on them.

You know, books. Those sacrosanct objects, little lower than the wisdom of angels, of incalculable educational value. Every single one of them. How dare the Chancellor, and be an author himself and one-time editor of the *Spectator*. Why, even during the Second World War - the then Chancellor wanted to place purchase tax on books. Sir Stanley Unwin wrote a letter to *The Times* urging that as purchase tax was not levied on food for the body so books, food for the mind, should be exempt. And so it was. But now we are in Europe. Other Europeans buy more books than we do, and pay VAT.

The faces of publishers have become enigmatised - those that were already - and little deputations are visiting influential individuals and pressure groups. Letters on official letterheads have become the order of the day. The Chancellor must be stopped; does he not realize that no one will buy a book, again? Look what happened in the Republic of Ireland. But the analogy breaks down, because most books sold in Ireland are published in Britain.

Now, I believe that to levy VAT on new books is a silly, short-sighted, pusillanimous idea and may the letters of protest - especially those, if there are any, which are well argued - and the deputations succeed in halting the Chancellor, in convincing him and his civil servants to change their minds. Books may be different in kind from boots but not all books, not these days most books; and it is naive and demeaning to the profession of letters to suggest otherwise. It is surely nonsense to suggest, as is being hotly suggested, that the publication of serious titles will die the death, or be mortally wounded, in one fell tax swoop, or even suffer much in the short term.

If a new novel by one of our better writers, of the sort submitted by its publisher for the Booker Prize, is published by any of our responsible publishers - from mighty Collins or Heinemann to modest Deutsch or miniscule Peter Owen - it is unlikely to sell more than two or three thousand copies, unless it pulls down the prize. Of that number, no more than 10 per cent is likely to be bought by the individual, private book-buyer.

The price of such novels this autumn seems to be £8.95, which is less than you pay for best seats at a West End musical or even at the highly subsidized National Theatre or Royal Shakespeare Company. If only a few hundred, even a few thousand, people attended a play or film or series of concerts, theatres, cinemas and orchestras would be out of business. Although the theatrical industry lobbied strenuously to have VAT removed from theatre seats when first imposed, the industry failed and is now doing rather well.

Repeat, only a very few people in this country avail themselves of the opportunity to purchase the most worthwhile new novels. Fewer buy new collections of poetry, and not many more buy serious non-fiction. A look at the best-seller lists makes it all too plain that the books doing well, apart from dictionaries, can hardly be described as of cultural or educational importance; and if a book finds some buyers at £8.95 it will surely find them at £1.00 or £1.50 more.

Books, especially those still well edited, printed on good paper and sturdy bound, are of amazing value and rather than bear about VAT it would behoove the publishing industry to discover why the average sale of the better titles is so low, and why the cynicism of the trade pretends that mediocre books are in themselves of some intrinsic worth.

One of the smoothest, most competent of British publishers, Clive Bingley, wrote to the *Bookseller* magazine a couple of weeks ago to say more or less this. As a result, the retiring chairman of the National Book League, Matthew Evans of Faber and Faber - not hitherto known for his intolerance of views opposed to his own - called for Mr Bingley's resignation as treasurer of the NBL. Mr Bingley, apparently, has obliged by resigning. His letter has resulted in a shower of blimpish emotion and little argument being expended in the *Bookseller's* correspondence columns; the surliest letter coming from the president of the Publishers' Association.

Books are more important than VAT. If only the trade would understand that and have a proper confidence in the glories of their product.

E. J. Craddock

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Whatever he forgot was filled in for her by the letters and diaries, so carefully preserved, brought home in a leather trunk. "What amazes me is the way my mother, racked by headaches, in that fearful heat, when the plains were like a furnace, and in those clothes, could write at all. But that's what she did, day after day. And my father wrote everything himself, by hand, even lists of underclothes, saying that secretaries couldn't spell." Today, with the photograph of her father that sits on her

esses and being presented at Court in 1925, recently married to Captain Edward Metcalfe (always known as "Fruity": it was, after all, the age of the nickname) she went with him to Delhi where he had been seconded to the staff of the Commander-in-Chief. But it was not until the late 1950s that her real travels began. She had been working for some years for the Save the Children Fund when the Dalai

dent, as well as the...
...overseas committee. "I am", she declares, "their very oldest member. They keep me as their history: I remember things." At 80, Lady Alexandra is a tall, stately figure of considerable elegance: her drawing room is filled with portraits and photographs and small Indian objects cover low tables.

As the only surviving child, and the one with an interest in her parents' history, Lady Alexandra has for many years

great regret is that...
...dead before her own India started, so that she was never able to share it with him. "What baffles me," she says, "is this endless fascination with India. I understand it. It was my past. But why does it go on and on? And when will it ever stop?"

A Viceroy's India: Leaves from Lord Curzon's Notebook, published today by Sidgwick & Jackson, £12.95.

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THE TIMES DIARY

In the right place

The renal consultant at the Royal Sussex Hospital, now treating Brighton's IRA bomb victims, is no stranger to Norman and Margaret Tibbitt, nor indeed to Tory chief whip John Wakeham. He is Anthony Trafford, a former Tory MP for the Wrekin, who started in the House on the same day as Tibbitt in 1970. Trafford, now a close friend of the Tibbitts, tells me the industry Secretary is hunk on form: "Norman was immensely relieved when told he was worst hit on his left side." Trafford, a contemporary of Wakeham's at Charterhouse, has doubtless cracked a few riddles himself. Regarded as by far the cleverest of the 1970 intake, the right-winger was much feared for his savage and impertinent tongue at Prime Minister's question time by both the whips and Downing Street. A friend recalls how Trafford - who worked at the Royal Sussex throughout his Commons career - was once challenged by an Arab houseman at the hospital for supporting Mad Misch. "Do you realize that Colonel Mitchell has killed so many of my compatriots?" "Well, doctor," replied Trafford, "that makes you and Colonel Mitchell about even."

● Last Monday *The Times* printed a letter from accountant Alan Wells detailing a catalogue of postal inefficiencies. Within hours his phone went dead. "The penalty for criticizing the post office," he concludes, "is excommunication."

Courting trouble

The Royal Court theatre in London, currently showing its Tory sex scandal play *An Honourable Trade*, is about to announce its new chairman to succeed novelist P. H. Newby, who has just quit after seven years. The new man is Matthew Evans, chairman of Faber and Faber, who just happens to be Newby's publisher. A veteran of the Aldermaston marches, Evans tells me he is in sympathy with the theatre's left-feminist image and sees his first duty as ensuring its survival: the theatre's £300,000 Arts Council grant was almost axed in spring, and is safe only until 1986. If he is to curry favour with friends in high places Evans may find it more politic to seek out some Labour scandals - if indeed they exist.

Tie-breaker

At a Mirror Group meeting with his Scottish executives, Robert Maxwell declared: "What I want to see is people taking off their jackets, rolling up their sleeves and getting on with the job." The managers murmured agreement. Maxwell quickly repeated the proposition then suddenly roared: "Well, what's wrong with you? I said take off your jackets." The one who didn't was Liam Kane, deputy managing director of the *Daily Record*. But then he could afford to: having just been promoted to deputy managing director of the Mirror Group in London - a job he was due to start next month - he has quit for a better paid job in advertising.

Digging deep

A News of the World advertisement, which a colleague found under her kitchen sink is sure to bring a very smile to Arthur Scargill. Dated February 10, 1980, it reads: "Want work that's worth while? - you'll have a job for good in Mining." The ad quotes miner "Loli" Moriarty of Bank Hall Colliery: "You can earn good money in Mining and you know it's a job with a future." The minimum wage for adult underground workers is £5 5/- a week, skilled face-workers between £9 and £10. "Best of all, you know your future's secure in the Country's coal mines." JOIN THE MINERS NOW!

BARRY FANTONI



"Incredible to know a world without Scargill"

Home truths

Arthur Scargill and cronies may live to regret the resignation last week of Roy Otley from the NUM executive. Otley, who quit because he was "not prepared to break the law," is writing his biography, in which he will pull no punches on the present dispute. He is critical of the NUM's failure to call a ballot, of his executive colleagues who advocated a ballot then inexplicably voted against it, and of the union's confrontational policies and bypassing of democracy. His book will begin with the General Strike of 1926, when Otley was two. Looking back to that strike he says: "I think 'My God, what have we learnt?' We haven't learnt much when we inflict and perpetuate this on each other. It's tragic." There will be no shortage of willing publishers.

PHS

Message of the Brighton bomb

by Enoch Powell

Since the Brighton bomb went off, the air has been thick with the ringing words of those who declare that nothing will make them bend to demands backed by terrorism. It would be as well if it were understood what these demands actually are.

It was on Wednesday morning, as I checked my car with extra care before switching on the ignition, that I remarked to my passenger: "We are due for a major terrorist outrage somewhere in England precisely now." That was neither a guess nor a coincidence. How could I be so sure?

In recent weeks the press, especially the Belfast and Dublin papers, have carried increasingly detailed trailers of what will come out of the meeting foreshadowed next month between Mrs Thatcher and the Irish premier, Garret FitzGerald. The trailers had indicated that it would be a historic meeting and would set the coping-stone of a parliamentary tier on the Anglo-Irish structure erected at preceding summits to "pave the way for a federal constitution linking Ulster to the Irish Republic", as Conservative candidates at the 1979 general election were warned in a Central Office brief.

In the last few days there was a sudden change. The softening-up process, conducted by leaks and hints mainly from Dublin, but also from Stormont Castle, dried up, and the opposing message began to trickle out: the opposite doing, these things take a long time, don't expect too much. By Tuesday evening Irish journalists at Brighton were forecasting that "FitzGerald will come out of it with nothing". What had happened?

Mrs Thatcher has recently been directing her mind to the summit. As she did so, officials were quick to become aware of a growing distaste on her part for being taken further on the same ride by the same tigers. It was news which, in accordance with practice, confidentially of course, they communicated for guidance to their opposite numbers in Dublin. In case anybody is surprised by that, *The Times* of December 6 1980 carried the classic description of how the contents of a private conversation late one evening between Mrs Thatcher and Mr (now Lord) Whitehead reached Dublin in the early hours of the same night and spread consternation there.

In Dublin there is a seamless web which links respectable officialdom and politics with a decidedly unrespectable underworld. The altered briefing going out to the press was one symptom of the recent "message received and understood". Another was the Brighton bomb.

The terrorist organizations, like restaurateurs, maintain an *à la carte* menu, from which dishes can be ordered at any time. They need to, because their special dishes call for skilled and careful preparation over months rather than weeks. Once a dish is on the menu, it is the work of a matter of days to bring it to the table. Such a dish was served at Brighton on Thursday night. These Thyeastep repasts convey a message, encoded but easily decipherable by those to whom it is addressed: "Watch your step, don't falter now, make 'political progress' - or else!"

This has all happened before. What cost

Airey Neave and Lord Mountbatten their lives in 1979 was the intention, filtered through to Dublin, of the Conservatives under Mrs Thatcher to change the course of British policy in Ulster. The encoded warning was there in the unpublished full communiqué of an Anglo-Irish meeting on October 5 1979 held "in the aftermath of the murder of Earl Mountbatten" (Mrs Thatcher's phrase, *Hansard*, July 20 1982, col. 112). "The Ministers (British and Irish) also discussed the prospects for political progress in Northern Ireland. They noted that the British government hoped before long to be in a position to put forward positive proposals for political development. The Irish Ministers emphasized the importance of an early initiative."

One link in the chain remains to be put in place: what interest has the IRA in salvaging the political operation of FitzGerald and Co? Little enough, no doubt: but the Provisionals and the Irish National Liberation Army do not always operate as principals; they take on work for other interests too.

So I pose the question: who is so interested, and why, in the summit paving a political "way for a federal constitution linking Ulster to the Irish Republic"?

I will leave a clue to the answer in the form of another question: what context is it in which governments and statesmen are prepared without scruple to see murder used, if necessary, for their ends?

© The Times (Newspaper Limited), 1984

The author is Official Unionist MP for Down South.

Caroline Moorehead on a long fight to reshape industrial thinking

Design: a change for the better?

There is nothing new in the cry that the British cannot design anything well: long before the Great Exhibition of 1851 people were saying that you couldn't look to British designers for imagination or reliability. But *Managing Design*, a report to be published today by the Council for National Academic Awards (CNAA), reveals how serious the problem has recently become: because of its poor performance Britain is failing to hold its own in manufactured goods - whether cars, refrigerators, shoes or heavy duty vehicles.

In the words of the report's principal author, Louis van Praag, chairman of Sabre International Textiles: "We are now so far behind that many British companies are fast approaching their last opportunity. If they don't learn to exploit design, they are rapidly going to be overtaken by companies overseas who have learnt. We have no time left. After all, if it wasn't for North Sea oil, we would be bankrupt."

If his words sound melodramatic, he has figures to fall back on. Last year, for the first time, Britain had a negative balance of payments in manufactured goods, of £2,148m. While our export share of world trade has fallen from 25 per cent to 9 per cent, imports have grown from 6 per cent to 30 per cent. Eighty-four per cent of our record players/tape decks come from abroad; as do 80 per cent of our scissors and 43 per cent of our electric cookers.

Education is clearly only one way of trying to prevent a slide into further disaster, but education is the one the authors of the report believe crucial. At the moment they are aiming directly at the post-graduate business courses inside polytechnics, with a new and highly detailed curriculum to follow, and once the country is turning out managers educated in design the whole alarming downward trend in manufacturing can be reversed.

The message that there is general indifference to design is repeated everywhere. Business schools teach accountancy, public relations and cash flow, but very rarely design management. "The product," says Geoffrey Constable of the Design Council, "is simply taken for granted." Those brave enough to put on courses in design find "stony silence," he says, "while courses on VAT are supported like the devil". Big companies frequently have public relations experts at board level, but rarely any design managers on their staff. "The design process," says Kenneth Grange of Pentagram Design, "is today's poor cousin. It's yet another extraordinary example of the British talent to



Merrick Taylor (left): "For 20 years the accent in British industry has been on control rather than creativity." Kenneth Grange: "Another example of creative fountains allowed to trickle away." Right, John Butcher, at last a minister who takes an interest



have amazing creative fountains and let them trickle away."

"Over the past twenty years all emphasis in British industry has been on control and not on creativity," says Merrick Taylor, who attributes his success as chairman of Motor Panels, the largest European manufacturer of truck cabs, precisely to an obsession with design.

"With today's higher aspirations, and the loss of our protected markets, we cannot go on ignoring the fact that we have to enter the age of intellectual investment."

In the USA there are 60 scientists and engineers in research and development per 10,000 labour force; in Britain the figure is about 30. Everywhere else, the money spent in this field is growing; in Britain it is declining. "Is it surprising," asks Louis van Praag, "that our good designers are all going to work abroad?"

What does design actually mean? Not, it seems, surface appearance. The report gives 11 separate definitions, from "goal-directed problem solving activity" to "performing a very complicated act of faith". Louis van Praag prefers "fitness for purpose."

A well designed product, be it a tractor or a shoe, is something that works: it fulfils the wants, tastes, needs and priorities of those who use it. "Because it is imaginatively engineered. It is a successful fusion of market requirements, aesthetics and technology." Furthermore, the

British public knows it: "British consumers," he says, "are not apparently as visually illiterate as British industry" - hence their preference for Italian fridges and German cars.

Managing Design is something of a one-man victory. Fifteen years ago Louis van Praag found that he was taking designers into his knitwear business and then training them to be managers. Realizing that this system could not operate in very large companies, and perceiving widespread ignorance about the need for design throughout British industry, he approached the National Economic Development Office, which duly ran a design conference. It was so enthusiastically received that only the presence of Princess Margaret drew enough listeners to fill the seats.

Then came what he calls the "desert years." As successive ministers entered the Department of Trade and Industry, he went to call on them. Some saw him; some did not. Not one did anything. One day John Butcher arrived as Parliamentary Under-Secretary. Like his predecessors he had responsibility for design matters; unlike them he was interested. Furthermore Mrs Thatcher had begun to express loud concern about design. Money was now found - from the department, from the CNAA, of which Louis van Praag was now a member of council, and from the Design Council - which set off a researcher to see what was happening abroad.

What he came back with only

confirmed the gloomy picture. In Italy, design was widely regarded as a normal part of a company's activities. In West Germany product requirements were so thoroughly researched before manufacturing began that they rarely failed to find their market.

Louis van Praag then went back to John Butcher and asked for money, this time to devise a curriculum to offer business courses. At the same time, he approached the CNAA and asked that it reverse its entire tradition as a purely validating body and become a prescriptive one instead.

Will anything actually happen? For once, there is a spirit of optimism. Butcher says that he welcomes the report in that "it represents a first step in the process of creating a new generation of managers in the UK - managers who are fully aware of the way good design management can increase market share and profits."

More importantly perhaps, it looks set to make a mark not merely because the CNAA has actively endorsed it, but because of overwhelming enthusiasm from the schools of business studies throughout the country.

When Louis van Praag called for three volunteers to take the curriculum and start the course in 1985, 50 polytechnics replied. Leicester, Leeds, and Kingston-upon-Thames were chosen. Others are eager. But will the universities and industry follow?

altogether, for criticism of the Goldsmith kind has traditionally been levelled at it in Germany. The magazine brings this on itself by deliberately courting controversy.

"We are always 51 per cent against the government," Herr Augustin said - even when the Social Democrats were in power. Indeed former Chancellor Helmut Schmidt accused *Spiegel* of deliberately trying to destroy him and his coalition government in the months before it collapsed and of poisoning Bonn's relations with America. "We were merely pointing out what he was blind to," Augustin said.

For Augustin the Kohl government is a natural and constant target, especially as the chancellor pays little attention to his press critics and delights in ignoring what many Christian Democrats see as the supercilious carping of a left-wing Hamburg press which still has to come to terms with the new conservative mood in Germany.

But as the government begins to stumble in its policies and cohesion cracks in Bonn, so the magazine's influence grows. It now prints 930,000 copies a week. "And I cannot remember a time when we had more influence," Augustin said. It is not an influence he will concede that the KGB has any part in, wittingly or not.

Michael Binyon

Spiegel, spoiling for another fight

Hamburg *Der Spiegel* is a sharp-tongued, aggressive weekly news magazine, the most influential in West Germany and arguably in western Europe. It embarrasses governments, breaks news as well as taboos and is used to lawsuits from its opponents. Only once has it invoked the law of libel, in taking out a suit against Sir James Goldsmith, chairman of Cavenham Communications, in 1981. But a week ago *Spiegel* settled the case and in full-page advertisements in Britain and Germany Sir James has been claiming vindication.

Why did the magazine sue and why did it settle? To Herr Rudolf Augustin, the founder and publisher, an important issue was at stake. Sir James had asserted in *Now* magazine, quoting General Jan Svoboda, Czech defector, that the campaign by *Der Spiegel* to discredit Herr Franz Josef Strauss was "orchestrated by the KGB". If that had been allowed to pass unchallenged, Herr Augustin said in an interview on Wednesday, the magazine's credibility would have suffered irrevocably.

Spiegel's lawyers thought they had an open-and-shut case. The magazine, aided by the police in October 1982 after publishing an article saying that parts of West Germany could not be defended in the event of a Soviet attack, knew every detail

of what became known as the "Spiegel affair". This led to the downfall of the Adenauer government and the resignation of Herr Strauss, then West German Defence Minister. "We know that the KGB could not possibly have foreseen or determined these events," Herr Augustin said.

But *Spiegel* reckoned without the complexities of British libel laws or the persistence and wealth of Sir James Goldsmith (he said in a statement after the settlement that the libel action was "the privilege of the rich" and in future he would provide aid to help third parties pursue meritorious cases). It became clear in the Hamburg headquarters that Sir James was ready to go on for a long time, calling so many witnesses and demanding so much evidence that things would have become impossible for *Der Spiegel*. Herr Augustin said he was not ready to testify for six weeks, produce 128 back copies of the Czechoslovak party paper *Rude Pravo*, 14 *Pravdas* and 189 copies of *Neue Deutschland*, the East German paper.

What was decisive though was his unwillingness to repeat everything his magazine had ever said about Herr Strauss, including raking up reports of some unsavoury escapades of Strauss's in New York. Strauss and Augustin, whom he held in prison for four months in 1962, are now on good terms.

And so *Der Spiegel* settled for a public statement by Sir James that he had never meant that the KGB were "knowingly manipulated". In a sharp report in the latest issue, however *Spiegel* points out that this was not what Sir James actually said in 1981.

It noted that Sir James had commissioned 20 people to research and underpin his claims. The star witness was to have been the Soviet defector Oleg Birov. Only when Birov disappeared from Britain - later to turn up in Moscow - did Sir James's lawyers begin to speak of a postponement, which turned into a settlement offer.

It is a grudging settlement, and there are few charitable words for Sir James in Hamburg. The magazine publicly expressed in court that Soviet covert propaganda posed a danger to press freedom, and it may have been "unwittingly" used by Soviet intelligence. But, one senior editor remarked, it could be argued that the Queen was equally unwittingly used when she made a former Soviet spy her chief art adviser.

Der Spiegel feels dissatisfied with the outcome. It found strong support on Thursday from Herr Gerd Buerenis, the respected publisher of the intellectual weekly *Die Zeit*. "Sir James Goldsmith should not try to manipulate us, he said. The basic charge however will be hard for the magazine to shake off

Anne Sofer

The rose that has lost its bloom

Before the events of the early hours of Friday morning, I was reflecting, in preparation for writing this column, on the English national character: that combination of eccentricity and *sang froid* we like to think is our reputation abroad, that pottering complacency which Cecil Day Lewis described 50 years ago: "You who like peace, good sticks, happy in a small way, watching birds or playing cricket with schoolboys. Who pays for drinks all round whom disaster chase not..."

There is a question mark over it all. Is it true now? Was it ever? Is our current economic decline, and the polarization of politics, producing something altogether more strident?

Before returning to the answer and to the bomb at Brighton, let me digress to another recent comment on the English character, Umberto Eco's novel *The Name of the Rose*. The hero of this mystery set in an Italian abbey in the early fourteenth century is an English friar called William of Baskerville and he has every good quality that most of the French, German and Italian characters in that atmosphere of cruelty and bigotry patently lack: unbiased compassion, a facility for lateral thinking, a robust scepticism and a sense of humour.

He is a man before his time, endowed by the hindsight of the historical novelist with ideas - secularism, democracy, technological progress which were not to take off until centuries later. He is the inquisitor who turns away from his calling because he perceives that evil can reside as much in the mind of the inquisitor as with the heretic; the naturalist who is also a sharp judge of human nature; the advanced political radical who nonetheless engages in diplomatic manipulation with great adroitness and gusto. In his role as detective he is Sherlock Holmes. Lord Peter Wimsey and Philo Fogg rolled into one. It is indeed a flattering picture.

The book was widely taken to have a contemporary political message: "a vibrant plea for freedom, moderation and wisdom" said *L'Express*. The final message, as the great abbot burns down, consuming not only his priceless and irreplaceable library but also the bodies of numerous slaughtered monks, is delivered by William with uncharacteristic passion: "The Devil is not the Prince of Matter; the Devil is the arrogance of the spirit, faith without smile, truth that is never seized by doubt... Fear those prepared to die for the truth, for as a rule they make many others die with them... Perhaps the mission of those who love mankind is to make people laugh at

the truth, to make truth laugh, because the only truth lies in learning to free ourselves from this insane passion for the truth."

And that brings me back to Brighton. The warning against bigotry, arrogance and heroics is apposite enough, and it is particularly grim to realize that the blasted Grand Hotel and the bodies in the rubble - 350 years after all William's dream of human progress have been fulfilled - are the contemporary version of the burning abbey and the murdered monks, victims of the same sectarian strife within the same religion.

It is also depressing to conjecture on the effect this appalling incident will have on government policy. To be resolute against terrorism is the obvious and right response. But to be grimly resolute about absolutely everything else, including an economic strategy which is clearly not working, is a betrayal of that very flexibility, ingenuity and tolerance that Eco appears to have seen as characteristics of the English at their best. The IRA will have achieved nothing for Ireland: what they may have achieved is a hardening of the heart against the lengthening dole queues.

It has often struck me as ironic that Margaret Thatcher and Arthur Scargill are both thoroughly English, not Scots or Welsh or even Jewish or half American as so many of our national leaders have been. They are not your born-to-rule Norman-stock aristocrats either, but genuine up from the grass roots provincial English. Yet nothing could be further from the flinty character of either than that famous phlegmatic scepticism, that best-of-a-bad-job, live-and-let-live, better-luck-next-time, no-hard-feelings Englishness which is what we think we are like. We look in the mirror and do not recognize what we see.

The theological question which dominates the latter chapters of *The Name of the Rose* and which generates all the destruction is "Does God laugh?" Interpreted, this seems to mean: "Are there any ideas so sacred that they cannot be mocked?" and also, "Is the human tendency to laughter and ridicule a base or a divine instinct?"

I am told (though I have seen no evidence for it) that Mr Scargill has a keen sense of humour; no such stories circulate about Mrs Thatcher. But can one imagine either of them, English as they are, ever allowing themselves even the tiniest grin or chuckle at their own convictions? Or even a passing perception that they, like all human beings, are capable of absurdity?

The author is SDP member of the GLC/ILEA for St Pancras North.

William Oddie

Theological lib we can do without

"Chauvinist. Church Betrays Women" read the front-page headline over a recent article in the *Catholic Herald*. The article turned out to be not a report of some gross act of mass clerical misogyny but a respectful account of a talk given by the American Christian feminist theologian Rosemary Radford Ruether, to the "Catholic Women's Network", in the environs of Westminster Cathedral.

There was no report of the subsequent conference discussions; nor could there have been, since being male the *Catholic Herald* reporter was excluded; so was a BBC team covering the event for the *Sunday* programme on Radio 4.

This exclusion led to a vaguely critical comment in an otherwise wholly deferential account in the radical Roman Catholic journal *The Tablet*, which described the ban as "somewhat ironic"; no one, however, was at all surprised by it. It has long been clear that the Christian feminist movement is, perhaps inevitably, deeply torn between an innate tendency towards revolutionary paranoia and secretiveness on the one hand and, on the other, a desire to present an image of a movement which is open and responsible and devoted to gentle reason and progress.

Which is the real face of Christian feminism? The question needs more and more urgently to be answered as feminist influence grows within the churches, or at least within the various liberal/radical establishments and bureaucracies which infest modern Christendom.

A convenient way of putting the question would be to ask: "Who is the real Rosemary Ruether?" Ms Ruether is without doubt the most influential feminist theologian still within the church (others, such as Mary Daly, now describe themselves as "post-Christian"). More and more she seems to be emerging as the leading guru of Christian feminism, not only in America, but in Britain too. It is important to know, therefore, how much of the Christian tradition would actually remain if she and her supporters had their way.

Considerably less, it has to be said, than emerged from any of the press reports, or from Ms Ruether's calmly reasonable interview for Radio 4. What none of the non-feminist observers was permitted to see was the deep hatred and disgust for the Christian tradition which she has shown elsewhere, in literature intended primarily for internal consumption by the Christian feminist movement.

To take one example, what does she think that husband, children and faithfulness within Christian marriage should mean to a woman? Apparently this marriage for the wife means that "Only the male to whom she has been legally bound over may put his seed in her body..."

the power of her motherhood is stolen from her and she is reduced to an instrument of his virility... Only through the second birth of baptism, administered by the male clergy, is the filth of mother's birth remedied and the offspring of the woman's womb made fit to be a child of God... She must obediently accept the effects of these holy male acts upon her body..."

Above all, Christian feminists object to the word "Father" used as a name for God: the inevitable usage of Jesus himself, and also by his command of his disciples. "It is hardly possible," in the words of Catharina Halles (originally billed to appear with Ruether at Westminster), "to call to mind a single feminist theologian, whatever her phase of development may be, who does not find the image of the Father-God a challenge and a direct confrontation." "If God is male," trumpets Mary Daly, "then the male is God."

For the radical feminist, reality is what "feminist consciousness" says it should be. In the reconstructed feminist history of mankind (or "herstory") the perception of God as a father has been a principal factor in the alleged dehumanization of women by men. This domination is reinforced, according to this view, by the madness of the Son, who, in the dominant Christian tradition, has been represented by an exclusively male priesthood.

Nowhere, in fact, can we see the long-term feminist strategy against the essential Christian doctrine of the Fatherhood of God and the complementary "Sonship" of Christ more actively prosecuted than in the movement for the ordination of women in the priesthood.

For many, this is a simple matter of justice for women, and the women's ordination movement has been brilliantly successful in maintaining this belief. But the movement has, nevertheless, a hidden agenda. In the words of the Anglican Bishop of New York, a feminist supporter:

"God as Father and God as Son invoked by a male minister, creates in the unconscious, the intuitive, the emotive part of your belief an unmistakable male God. However, when women... preside at the Eucharist... this unconscious perception will begin to be redressed and the femininity of God will begin to be felt."

This revolutionary development may, though I very much doubt it, be the general wish of the storm-tossed Anglican faithful. But it has to be said, at the very least, that they should be told that this is what they are being asked to support. The hidden agenda should now be revealed.

William Oddie's What Will Happen to God? will be published on Wednesday by the SPCK.



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DE SAPIENTIA VETERUM

To the framers of the United States Constitution the phrase "elderly American" was not a term of abuse. They associated age with wisdom and made their dispositions for the great offices of state accordingly. Entry to the Senate was reserved for men of mature years. The dignity and trappings of the office of president belonged, it was thought, to a man grown grey, made by his years a conduit of national experience. However much has changed since, the symbolic strength of the presidency still resides on the president's maturity. Whether - taking the reported test of Dr. Lawrence Klein of Georgetown University for imminent senility - the president can count backwards from 100 in sevens is of little moment. As the purveyor of the nation's aspirations, the focus of a renewed American sense of economic and diplomatic strength, (President Reagan's strong suits), the present occupant of the White House need fear no actuary's life expectancy charts.

Those who live by mass media effect shall perish in the mirror of a television camera - and during the past week President Reagan has undoubtedly been the victim both of his own performance in the televised debate with Mr. Mondale and of the American press's appetite for seeking incapacity in political leaders. Of course the president's age and fitness to keep up (and

not just awake), matter, although Americans seem most uncharitable towards a man who survived an assassin's bullet. There is for a start an irreducible minimum of executive functioning which demands the president's alert attention - a volume of work which has multiplied several times since, with President Eisenhower, the White House was last occupied by a man of uncertain physical capacity.

Since Eisenhower the presidency has continued to agglomerate executive responsibilities; so much so that the president can, without exciting incredulous attention, claim personal responsibility for securing the American embassy annex in Beirut. President Reagan has, unwisely, emphasized his omniscience, and so courted inspection of his mastery of detail. Instead, the president needs to develop, especially for a second term of office, a limited conception of his powers to run parallel to his own strong instinctive idea of the limited nature of government in modern society. The core of the Reagan presidency has been his ability to mobilize American sentiment - positive, in the mood of economic optimism, and negative, in the ambitions of the evangelical conservatives. What has been less impressive has been the translation of broad presidential objectives into policy, because of failings among the president's

advisers and immediate staff and, barring a brief sequence of legislative victories in 1981, the absence of Congressional support. No one who has watched the flurry of half-digested measures adopted by Congress during the past few days, many with large budgetary implications, could assert that the President has succeeded as a leader on Capitol Hill.

The "age issue" should not induce challenges to arm-wrestling matches with Mr. Mondale nor photo opportunities to capture Mr. Reagan chopping wood on his ranch. It should, however, elicit from the president a better exposition than he has yet made of how much executive detail he really needs to know - and that necessarily involves him in a reappraisal of the quality both of his White House staff and his cabinet officers. Like Mr. Carter before him Mr. Reagan imported into Washington home state confidants and they have not all matched their tasks. For a second term, Mr. Reagan does not have to promise the hyperactivity of a Lyndon Johnson or the administrative acumen that Mr. Bush and indeed Mr. Mondale both possess. A good president needs a vision of America, which Mr. Reagan has presented. He needs as well some plan for spreading that vision through the marshy channels of American government. That is the wisdom of the ancients

BRINGING THE CHILDREN HOME

There can be few more devastating experiences for a parent than to have his or her child spirited away to some foreign country by the other parent, whose aim it is to keep the child there forever. Sadly, the growing number of international marriages, the rising rate of marriage breakdown, and the greater ease of cross-frontier movement, have combined to make this an increasingly common phenomenon. In human terms, the damage caused by these kidnappings, both to the deprived parent and to the child, is incalculable; sometimes the child cannot be traced at all, and contact is lost for ever; sometimes by the time the child has been tracked down it has become too established in its new environment to be uprooted again; and all too often, even where the child's whereabouts are known, the process of trying to get the child back is long, costly and difficult, with a high chance of failure.

There is a tendency on the part of the courts of many countries (our own included) to want to investigate the merits of the custody dispute between the parents when the child is present within their jurisdiction, regardless of the fact that the child is only there in the first place because it has been snatched from its home. The deprived parent is forced to litigate at long distance, there are liable to be protracted delays, and all the

time the child is settling down in its new home and the prospects of a return to the previous status quo are receding. The scales are heavily weighted in the abductor's favour.

The Child Abduction Act, which came into force last week, makes it a criminal offence for a parent, guardian, or custodian of a child under 16 to abduct that child to a foreign country without the consent of the other parent, guardian, or custodian, or the permission of the court. It should produce a three-fold effect: deterrent, by discouraging would-be child-snatchers; preventive, by enabling the police to intervene speedily before the child has left the country; and remedial, by permitting extradition of the abductor where appropriate arrangements are in force.

Welcome though the Act is, it should not be regarded as more than a partial solution to the problem. Often, the bird will still have flown before the police can be alerted; and extradition, even where available, is only second best: it is cumbersome and gives no guarantee that the child will come back with its parent. Furthermore, the Act gives no help at all where a parent fails to return a child after access abroad. The absence of any effective international machinery for enforcing the child's return remains one of the greatest obstacles in the way of a

continuing relationship between a child and both its parents after their marriage has broken down and one of them has moved abroad.

The only way this problem can be tackled satisfactorily is by agreement at an international level. Conventions for this purpose have been drawn up at the Council of Europe and at The Hague. Neither has yet been ratified by the United Kingdom. Under both conventions administrative machinery would be set up in contracting States to assist in locating and returning abducted children, and legal aid would be available. Subject to certain important exceptions and welfare safeguards, courts would be required to return a child forthwith without consideration of the merits of the custody dispute, which would be left to be resolved in the country from which the child had been removed.

There would, of course, be a price to pay for the benefits which ratification would bring us: our own courts would have to be readier than they have been to return children wrongfully brought here. It is a cost worth bearing in order to secure the prompt return home of children taken from this country. We should ratify these conventions without further delay. The new Act should not be our only contribution to the international effort to stamp out the evil of child abduction.

BROADCASTING TO CAPTIVE NATIONS

An initiative in American-financed broadcasting to the Soviet block which might at first glance seem no more than a minor administrative change will in fact have a significant impact on US-Soviet relations. Radio programmes in the languages of the Baltic states are now announced as broadcasts from Radio Free Europe rather than Radio Liberty, the sister station, likewise based in Munich, which covers the USSR.

Atlases show the small countries of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania as three of the fifteen republics of the USSR, while Radio Free Europe is responsible for broadcasts to the East European satellites. But the Baltic states were independent between the wars, and the western powers did not recognize their forcible incorporation into the USSR as in any way legitimate. They are ruled *de facto* from Moscow, but *de jure* they should be independent countries; the survival of their pre-war embassies in western capitals has borne sad but honourable witness to this point. In 1939 even the Soviet Foreign Minister, Vyacheslav Molotov, denied that Moscow had any claim to these lands, dismissing all rumours of the impending Sovietization of the republics as foul fabrications by the bourgeois media. But the terrible mass arrests, murders and exiling to

Siberia which followed were all too real.

The purpose of the Munich-based stations is to provide the free discussion and truthful information denied the peoples of the Soviet block by the controlled media of their regimes. Formerly funded by the CIA, the stations are now openly and generously financed by the American taxpayer, a sensible development fully in keeping with the Helsinki accords. However, those who administer the stations are attacked not only by Moscow; they are frequently criticized by journalists and politicians from Washington who are determined to show praiseworthy concern for the public interest. Some will doubtless question the wisdom of this decision too.

Stalin's post-war policy of incorporating some liberated territory into the USSR while making other countries "peoples democracies" has produced an artificial separation both between East and West and between the inhabitants of central and eastern Europe. Yet to call into doubt any of the present political divisions in the Moscow-dominated area will certainly raise irate accusations from the Kremlin that Washington is again declaring an interest in encouraging the disintegration of the Soviet empire.

When President Reagan proclaimed the third week of

July as Captive Nations Week he promised to renew efforts "to encourage freedom, independence and national self-determination for those countries struggling to free themselves from Communist ideology and totalitarian oppression". Such undiplomatic statements were widely criticized; they certainly did not make his meeting with Mr. Gromyko any cosier, and the Kremlin particularly objects to the expanding of broadcasting to the Soviet block.

The Lithuanian communist party leader Petr Griskevicius spoke at last month's plenum of the need to struggle more actively against bourgeois ideology, vestiges of the past and "local religious extremists". He demanded better education in the "spirit of internationalism", which is precisely the term used to explain the occupation of Afghanistan.

If the West wishes to dissuade Moscow from further expansion, it is vital to show that a brutal occupation more than forty years ago is neither forgotten nor accepted as legitimate. The directors of the Munich radio stations have not merely tinkered with their administrative structure; they have sent a significant message of sympathy and encouragement to nations which are bravely preserving their heritage against all the efforts of an alien atheist regime.

In the second case the Rev Richard Dod, Curate of Waverton, in Cheshire, was executed in 1672, having "lived lewdly with his maid and got her with child, and among them had made away the child".

Two cases in particular spring to mind: in the first the Rev James Hackman, Vicar of Wiverton, in Norfolk, being spurned by the mistress of Lord Sandwich, took his revenge by shooting her outside Covent Garden Theatre. After an unsuccessful attempt to take his own life, Hackman was condemned to death and hanged at Tyburn in 1779.

Sinning parsons

From Mr M.J. Crossley-Evans

Sir, I should like to correct a statement made by Alan Franks in his article, "Murder most foul on the Sabbath . . . and the person did it" (Spectrum, October 3). He wrongly states that, in January, 1872, the Rev John Selby Watson was sentenced to death for the murder of his wife "he became the only Church

Cause for nation to give thanks

From Lord Lauderdale
Sir, Would it not be well for the established churches of England and Scotland to proclaim a day of general thanksgiving for the escape from assassination of her Majesty's Cabinet constitutionally drawn from a free parliament?

This is a constitutional rather than party matter.

The day could fittingly commemorate those killed and maimed in place of the main target.

I am, yours etc,
LAUNDERDALE,
House of Lords,
October 14.

One currency for all

From Mr Christopher Jackson, MEP for East Kent (European Democrat (Conservative))

Sir, Your Economics Editor asserts (October 8) it is time for Britain "to act as a flourishing ECU", that is, presumably, to join the exchange rate mechanism of the EMS (European Monetary System). This is right, but surely it is time to look further still.

I have long been impressed by the advantages which use of the dollar brings the USA despite the large variations in wealth and resources between the states. One of the most potent moves the European Community could make towards increasing its economic effectiveness, not to mention its weight in world economic councils, would be to adopt the ECU as its single currency - with pounds, marks, francs etc. remaining as domestic currencies while ceasing to have independent existence.

Europe's besetting curse of nationalism, of course, stands in the way, but throughout the EEC the need of our peoples for economic growth to reduce unemployment should now be allowed more weight against the forces of insularity and chauvinism.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER JACKSON,
Medlars,
Oakhill Road,
Sevenoaks,
Kent,
October 9.

Airline competition

From Mr Martin O'Regan

Sir, An opportunity truly missed (your leader, October 8) is a view that is widely shared on the Government's White Paper on airline competition.

British Airways now comes to us gift-wrapped as a mighty Trojan horse: an airline policy without an airport policy; privatization but without the hall mark of real competition.

British Airways still has more employees per aircraft (about 250) than any other UK operator, protected by an unacceptable cartel arrangement of pooling fares in Europe and reserved areas of operation.

We now face the British Telecom proposals - an issue of shares that has been devised and promoted on the wartime model of compulsory National Savings. But at least the Government had to make some arrangement to protect the consumer against that dominant supplier who is not in aviation?

Yours sincerely,
MARTIN O'REGAN,
The Studio Cottage,
7 Sussex Square,
Brighton,
Sussex.

Unchanging times

From Dr F. Dennington

Sir, I congratulate Mr Sarkies (October 6) on his acquisition of a copy of *The Times* dated October 1, 1912, but I feel that I have done better.

Recently my son gave me as a birthday present a copy of *The Times* dated September 15, 1898, both of us being 86 years old.

It made fascinating reading and what specially interested me was a telegraphic report on page 3 by your Correspondent in Santiago (Chile) to the effect that the dispute over boundaries between Argentina and Chile was irreconcilable while an editorial article on page 7 dealt at great length with its origin, development and background.

On page 5 of today's issue of *The Times* your Diplomatic Correspondent hints at a probable agreement soon.

I wonder, Sir, whether other great newspapers, British or foreign, could claim a similar high standard of informative service to their readers over such a long span of time?

Yours faithfully,
F. DENNINGTON,
43, Skeena Hill, SW18,
October 6.

VAT on books

From Dr T. D. Hobbs

Sir, Your reports that the Government is thinking of imposing VAT on books and magazines in the next budget have dealt largely with the damaging effect that such a tax would have on publishers and booksellers.

The chief executive of the Library Association and the chairman of the Publishers Association have both expressed the view that a 15 per cent levy on books will result in even shorter print-runs, with books going out of print even more quickly than at present and, with many non-profitable titles not being published at all.

The effect on libraries, both public and academic (and, more importantly, on their users) will be equally disastrous. The dwindling number of people who buy their

Why UK lags behind in engineering

From Professor Michael J. French

Sir, Your Special Report on professional engineers (October 5) takes much too complacent a view of the situation. UK industry as a whole, unlike its foreign competitors, has yet to learn that employing plenty of good engineers pays.

A report just published (*The Competitive Position of the Gearing Manufacturing Industry in the UK*, Institution of Mechanical Engineers, £11) shows that the gearing industry in the UK employs proportionately only one fifth as many in design and development and one ninth as many in production as its rivals in Germany, our main competitor in the field.

There is also criticism of the lack of instruction in design among UK graduates, which is inevitable, given our short courses and the fundamentals which must be taught first. I believe this situation is typical of much of our industry and is a major reason for our economic failure.

There is no time to be lost. Government should immediately meet the relatively very modest demands of the Engineering Council. But all other efforts will be useless unless attitudes in industry change, to be more like those in our economic rivals: above all, the salaries of engineers must rise or we shall not attract sufficient numbers and sufficient quality into the profession.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL J. FRENCH,
University of Lancaster,
Department of Engineering,
Bailrigg,
Lancaster,
October 8.

From Mr John Diggins
Sir, We hear much today from Government ministers and industry on training and education and how colleges of further education are

mining; should be privatised. It already has 90 per cent private contractors, but none of these would want to be involved with the very lengthy procedures and negotiations leading to site authorisation and land acquisition.

They prefer to get the contracts involved in drilling, coal production, coal preparation and site restoration, but not the tiresome work leading up to the tender stage.

Yours faithfully,
R. T. ARGUILL,
12 Edward Road,
Market Harborough,
Leicestershire,
October 10.

Pit closure dilemma

From Mr R. T. Arguille

Sir, Mr Francis McWilliams' suggestion (October 10) that the NCB should be required to give notice of a pit closure at least three years in advance seems to be a reasonable one, but entirely unworkable.

In South Wales I have seen on opencast sites (where the seams can be followed by exposing them) coal seams which, within 30 yards, have split into two, or have thinned, or have disappeared entirely due to faulting or wash-outs. I have seen a seam which reared up like a gigantic Atlantic roller as it comes ashore.

You can see this with opencast workings. But below in the pits you are blind, despite probing ahead of coal faces. So what one day is a viable pit can, in a matter of weeks, become a very different issue.

At Newman Spiney site, near High Moor Colliery, Derbyshire, after years of experimental gasification in the NCB, in consultation with the Central Electricity Generating Board, the small generating station was closed down as the results of the gasification gave such poor results.

Because the seams had been "fired" and there was a risk to two adjacent collieries this site was worked opencast and the areas which had been burnt to produce gas were found to vary in size from a table top to a tennis court. Again faults and other geological reasons had caused a scheme to founder.

Finally, one notes your editorial (October 10) suggesting, once more, that the very profitable opencast

mining; should be privatised. It already has 90 per cent private contractors, but none of these would want to be involved with the very lengthy procedures and negotiations leading to site authorisation and land acquisition.

They prefer to get the contracts involved in drilling, coal production, coal preparation and site restoration, but not the tiresome work leading up to the tender stage.

Yours faithfully,
R. T. ARGUILL,
12 Edward Road,
Market Harborough,
Leicestershire,
October 10.

The real Melbury
From Mr Adrian Room
Sir, Your Agriculture Correspondent, John Young, reports (October 8) that the firm of Dairy Crest has launched a new soft cheese called Melbury to follow the "equally fictitious named" Lymeswold cheese.

Lymeswold may indeed be a fictitious name, but Melbury most certainly is not. There are no fewer than four very real Melburys in Dorset, respectively, Melbury Abbas, Bubb, Osmond and Sampford. But doubtless Dairy Crest selected the name for its suggestion of "mild" and "mellow". The name's Dorset origin must also be in their favour, however.

Yours faithfully,
ADRIAN ROOM,
173 The Causeway,
Petersfield,
Hampshire.

Migraine and allergy
From Dr J. N. Blau
Sir, It would be helpful for your readers who do not have access to the *Lancet* to know that the report (September 28) of the relationship between migraine and allergy was based on nine selected patients who were challenged with foods on three occasions, only one of which was reported in the *Lancet*.

The proof of this pudding is surely in not eating the incriminating foods for some months and having no migrainous attacks during that time. In my opinion, this vital evidence was missing.

To extrapolate from nine patients to the four million affected in the UK is naive, particularly when many precipitants have nothing to do with allergy: delaying meals, sleep disturbances, hormonal changes in women, exposure to light, cold, going to the cinema, travelling, stress or even shopping.

To equate a triggering mechanism with a cause is illogical.

Yours faithfully,
J. N. BLAU,
The City of London Migraine Clinic,
22 Charterhouse Square, EC1.

More haste . . .
From the Director of The Maritime Trust

Sir, In Mr Tam Dalyell's letter (October 9) he asks where Lord Lewin got his information that the General Belgrano was capable of 30 knots. *Jane's Fighting Ships* shows that, as the USS Phoenix, her design speed at full power was 32.5 knots. Steam turbine-driven ships should, if properly maintained, be able to produce full power throughout the life of the ship.

The speed "over the ground" is affected by other factors, such as loading, the sea state, cleanliness of the ship's bottom and the effect of surface currents.

Mr Dalyell may have been misled by the Belgrano's captain saying that

his ship's cruising speed was 18 knots. This implies an economical rate of steaming at about one fifth of full power.

Yours etc,
PATRICK BAYLY, Director,
The Maritime Trust,
16 Ebury Street, SW1,
October 11.

From Captain D. Bromley-Martin, RN (retd.)
Sir, *Jane's Fighting Ships*, 1937 edition, page 499 - 32½ knots. But 25 knots would have met Lord Lewin's case.

Yours faithfully,
D. BROMLEY-MARTIN,
3 Tufts Hard,
Boham Hoe,
Chichester,
Sussex,
October 10.

cent reduction in real book funds. Libraries will not be able to reclaim the VAT, and it is improbable that libraries' funding authorities will offset the 15 per cent loss caused by VAT with a corresponding increase in book funds.

These effects will be felt by all libraries alike - public, polytechnic, special, university, even Oxford and Cambridge colleges. The appalling and long-term effect that they will have on the educational standards of the country and therefore on the country's future prospects as a whole must be obvious to all except, apparently, to a Government which is interested only in short-term gain.

Yours faithfully,
TIMOTHY D. HOBBS,
Sub-Librarian,
Trinity College Library,
Cambridge,
October 5.

Pride of place
From Mr A. J. Lommerud-Olsen

Sir, I saw a couple return to their car parked next to mine. The woman passenger approached her side of the car. The man went to the driver's door, unlocked it, glanced across the roof, walked dutifully around the passenger door, unlocked that, said, "You drive!" - and climbed in.

Discretion perhaps?
Yours faithfully,
A. H. LOMMERUD-OLSEN,
Sandhurst-Winton Hall,
Dunchurch,
Near Rugby,
Warwickshire.

From Mr Anthony Cutcher
Sir, Such courtesy causes confusion. When I open their door first, passengers go to the other side, assuming the car to be left-hand drive.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY CUTCHER,
153 Fox Lane,
Southgate, N13.

THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Why Tory jobs boom fails to shorten the dole queue

So much credit is due to Mrs Thatcher for her calm performance last Friday that it seems almost indecent to analyse the words she found to use at her party conference. But "business as usual" cannot stop the Prime Minister: it dictates a normal critique of the defences she and her colleagues mounted on the outstanding issue of unemployment.

Through Brighton week, there were in essence two. That jobs are on the increase, even if the dole queue is still, for the moment, getting longer. And that jobs would be multiplying faster if the British were not "pricing themselves out of work".

It was the second claim that grabbed the headlines, and started an argument which has a long way to run. But the first, statistical point merits a little prior investigation.

Putting the best figure forward Britain's "employed labour force" rose about 250,000 in the year to March, 1984. Now that compares with a total increase of only 290,000 in the full three years of the previous Labour-governed upswing in the jobs cycle, from 1976 to 1979: a point which ought to induce considerable caution in the framers of Labour's next manifesto.

The "employed labour force" includes the self-employed, whose numbers were falling in the late 1970s and are rising now. This is a source of proper satisfaction to the Government. Between 1979 and 1983, the number of self-employed rose about 350,000 mostly in the new service industries. The financial sector alone notched up an extra 75,000. But later figures for self-employed are, in truth, pretty rough guessimates. So if we take the narrower, but more reliable measure of "employees in employment", the change this past year looks less impressive. The net increase in jobs in the 12 months to March, 1984, was only 190,000.

Still, that does amount to about half the total increase in the number of employees achieved in the three year 1976-79. One must however, take some account of what went before during each of the jobs cycles. During 1974-76, employment (on this definition) fell only about as third of a million. During 1979-83, it dropped by well over two million.

This is a more dramatic difference than the unemployment figures reveal. In 1974-76, as employment fell, unemployment rose nearly twice as much. But in 1979-83, the rise in unemployment was nearly half a million less than the fall in employment - partly because some people were redefined out of the unemployment statistics and partly because people simply faded out into what the statisticians call "economic inactivity".

The distinction between two jobs cycles is important, because some of the disappearing unemployed have now been trickling back into jobs; and so the extra employment has not dented the dole queue apart from a brief respite last autumn. During the last upswing, too it did take a year before rising employment had an impact on the jobless figures. But there are signs reported by the Manpower Services Commission that the Tory jobs boomlet is slowing. Although manufacturing employment rose this summer for the first time in seven years, the service industries were not, it seems, creating new jobs at the rate they were last winter.

There is, moreover, a highly significant second reason why the extra jobs have not cut into registered unemployment; which is that the vast proportion so far have consisted of part-time work. In March, 1984, the big rise was in part-time working women, whose numbers went up over 200,000; the number of full-time female employees was actually down on the year before.

The trend to part-time work goes way back. In 1951, only 12 per cent of women workers were part-timers, and fewer than 1 per cent of working men. Today, nearly half of all working women are part-timers.

and 6 per cent of men. On the one hand, this trend reflected the huge increase in the number of mothers doubling as part-time housewives and part-time wage-earners; while on the other, employers may, in the years of near-full employment, have turned to part-timers.

The swing from manufacturing to services has played a big part. In service industries it is more difficult, by and large, to stockpile the product of labour. A car due for delivery next month can be assembled at any time during the intervening 720 hours; but if you need a nurse or a counter clerk on Saturday mornings, it is no use employing either Monday to Friday. In the services, hourly or daily fluctuations in demand have to be reflected in fluctuating employment far more closely than in manufacturing - a fact unions which resist the use of part-timers (notably in the Post Office) would do well to take on board.

Of course, part-time working has increased, though less markedly, in manufacturing too. A recent Department of Employment survey explores the reasons in some depth, but they boil down to costs. Even among women (who anyway earn less than men), the survey identified a 16 per cent difference in average hourly earnings across the economy between full and part-timers: it also pointed out the use of part-timers are often excluded, and the gap widens if increase some administration costs, employers expressed an (unquantified) belief that they were more productive.

All this is grist to Mr Lawson's mill of beliefs that there is an inescapable link between pay jobs, since they are appearing in the last required, lowest regulated, lowest-paid, sector of the British labour market - for largely non-unionized women part-timers. But it also knocks some of the gilt off the Government's figures for new jobs. That 190,000 boils down to a full week's work for only about half this number. Further evidence that the recovery is slow in relation to the economy's potential; but the changing balance of employment is also reason for the Government to ask itself two urgent practical questions about the social security system.

First, about national insurance, which excludes from contributions those earning less than £34 a week, but imposes a swingeing marginal tax on those part-timers who just overstep this boundary, by charging contributions on their full earnings. As both part-time work and the level of contributions have grown, this has become a distortive, incentive for employers to keep a growing share of the workforce below the threshold, and consequently, excluded from the security of the National Insurance system.

Secondly, about the rules governing benefits. The reason so many of the extra jobs have gone to women outside the labour force, and so few to men on the dole, has more to do with the social security system than with the traditional sexual segregation of men into manufacturing and women into services. Because he will lose benefit pound for pound, there is no point a man on the full householder scales of social security taking on any job which does not provide an income well above benefit level - no point, therefore, in applying for part-time work.

Since the vast majority of last year's extra jobs were for part-timers, it is no wonder they did not reduce the dole queue, or that the Labour Force Survey identified so many discouraged jobseekers among the unemployed. If ministers believe this trend will continue, then they must - for the sake of their statistics, if not for the sake of the long-term jobless - change the benefits system so the those on the dole could seek at least partial satisfaction, and a higher standard of living, through part-time work.

Sarah Hogg
Economics Editor

Morgan Grenfell bolsters gilts plans with Pember merger

By Jeremy Warner

Pember & Boyle, one of the top London gilt-edged brokers, is linking with Morgan Grenfell, the merchant banking group, to help form a new force in international securities trading.

Morgan Grenfell has already agreed to acquire Pinchin Denny, London's third largest gilt-edged broker, and it intends to merge this firm with Pember & Boyle as soon as the Stock Exchange allows it.

The merchant bank's own fast-growing international capital markets business will also be injected into the new combined securities trading operation.

A green paper detailing the

exact structure of the new market, together with the capital requirements and other obligations of its members, is due to be published by the Bank soon.

Most of the other big merchant banks, jobbers and brokers have also made moves to position themselves as primary dealers in the new market.

Morgan Grenfell plans to build up a strong equity distribution and research operation to complement its own position in corporate finance and Pinchin's equity market making business.

Mr Christopher Reeves, Morgan Grenfell's chief executive, said that up to 50 "appropriately qualified and experienced personnel" would be recruited over the next two years and bringing the total number employed in the new securities house to about 400.

This would still leave the company significantly smaller



Christopher Reeves: planning to recruit 50 people

than the other two similar City groupings that have emerged since the Stock Exchange struck its historic bargain with the Government over commissions and membership 18 months ago.

The American-style security trading businesses being formed

around Barclays Bank and Mercury Securities already have large equity distribution and research capabilities.

Mr Reeves claimed that the advantage of going for a smaller operation to begin with was that it was a "manageable size".

"Buying a bigger broker brings with it a lot of risks. Morgan Grenfell has a successful record of growing its own businesses and I sure we will also be successful in securities," he said.

The size of the latest deal is not being disclosed but it is understood that almost all the money will be paid to Pember's 14 partners in the form of "golden handcuff" preference shares. These will not be convertible into Morgan Grenfell shares for some years and if the partner leaves the firm before then he will relinquish conversion rights. Conversion could coincide with Morgan Grenfell seeking a stock market flotation.

Building society funds flow back

By Graham Searjeant, Financial Editor

Cash has flowed rapidly back into Britain's building societies after the shortage of funds caused by the 28th issue of National Savings Certificates, which has now ended.

The Building Societies Association is expected to announce tomorrow that new receipts reached about £850m last month, compared with only £13m in August.

Returns for the first two weeks of October suggest

receipts could comfortably top £900m this month and could approach the monthly record inflow of £987m in October last year.

The dramatic turnaround is unlikely to lead to a quick cut in mortgage rates, but could lead to a slackening in the recent competitive bidding up of special rates to investors.

This competition has cut building society operating margins and the societies will want

to return to more normal margins before cutting mortgage rates.

They will also want to assess the effects of the British Telecom issue in the middle of November. Some senior managers believe this could drain up to £400m from the societies.

The best hope of an early cut in mortgage rates could lie in a general cut in interest rates in the event of a speedy settlement to the miners' strike.

Recovery is 'slowing in South-east'

By David Smith
Economics Correspondent

There has been a decline in business confidence in London and the south-east during the past three months, according to the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry's latest survey of manufacturing industry.

There are indications that the industrial recovery is losing momentum, the LCCI says.

The LCCI's quarterly economic trend survey, based on 282 questionnaire responses from companies in the South-east, suggests a slowing down in new orders, but this was down on the 54 per cent recorded in June.

The last survey, in June, reported a sharp fall in confidence among smaller companies. There was a small improvement in confidence among small companies in the latest survey, but this was more than offset by declining optimism among medium-sized and larger companies.

Even so, investment has continued strongly, although investment intentions for the next 12 months are weak, with a balance of only 27 per cent of companies expecting to increase investment, compared with 58 per cent in June.

Employment has risen steadily, with 35.4 per cent of companies now reporting difficulty in recruiting skilled labour, and 22.7 per cent experiencing problems in finding new managerial staff. The corresponding figures in June were 23.1 per cent and 9.9 per cent respectively.

● Nearly 5 million people could be without jobs by 1987, stockbrokers Grieson Grant suggest. The firm fears formal unemployment could rise by 500,000 to 3.5 million and that another million could be on special employment schemes against 670,000 this year.

IMF set to reschedule \$10bn Philippines debt

By Our City Editor

The Philippines has reached an agreement with the International Monetary Fund on the economic austerity programme that forms the basis of a letter of intent to the IMF, President Ferdinand Marcos said in Manila.

Foreign currency controls are to be removed starting today and the peso floated as part of the package. This is expected to lead to a small effective

devaluation of the peso.

The agreement paves the way for a \$650m (£511m) IMF standby credit and rescheduling of part of the country's \$25.6 billion foreign debt. Negotiations with 483 creditor banks for rescheduling \$10 billion of maturing debts, up to \$1.65 billion of new loans and an extra \$4 billion of extra trade credits are all conditional on formal agreements with the IMF.

Mandarin Hotels for US

The Hongkong Land Company is planning to sell its 15 per cent share of the jointly-owned Royal Orchid hotel in Barakok and to establish a hotel management company in North America under the name of Mandarin Hotels International.

This follows Hongkong Land's decision to look for offers in excess of HK\$800m (£83m) for the Excelsior Hotel in Kowloon, Hongkong.

Mr David Davies, the company's chief operating officer,

said that the Royal Orchid was a similar class of hotel to the Excelsior but that the company had decided to concentrate on its top-quality hotels. "The Mandarin Hotels are core business to Hongkong Land but the emphasis will be on the Mandarin and Oriental style".

Hongkong Land expects to open an office in the US by the end of this year to develop hotels in America and, to a lesser extent, in Canada.

US groups ward off 'greenmail'

By Our City Editor

Two leading companies in the United States are introducing schemes to help ward off the threat of unwelcome takeover bids or attempts of "greenmail". Colgate-Palmolive, the consumer products group, is using the ingenious device of a conditional rights issue as well as above the stock market price for its shares. The issue would become exercisable if someone acquired 20 per cent of the company or made a tender offer for 30 per cent.

This device has been called "poison pill" dividend, on Wall Street.

Meanwhile, Quaker Oats, the breakfast cereal producer, is seeking shareholders' approval for a device known as a "shark repellent".

The device works by requiring the approval of at least 80 per cent of the company's shares for any "greenmail" buyout.

In a "greenmail" an investor builds up a substantial stake in a company, then allows himself to be bought out by the company at a premium.

The shares of Colgate-Palmolive have been rising strongly in recent weeks on the back of persistent rumours that Sir James Goldsmith, the British financier, is about to buy into the company.

Colgate has declared a special dividend entitling shareholders to buy one share at \$37.50 (£30) for every two shares they hold if a takeover attempt is made.

The effect of this would be to make the company far more expensive for the suitor by raising its stock market value from \$2 billion to \$3 billion.

Beazer offer for Kent

M. P. Kent, the development group which last week announced it was in takeover talks, is understood to have received an offer from C. H. Beazer, the Bath-based construction and housing group, which recently failed in a bid for house developer William Leech. The attraction could be Kent's 18 per cent stake in Bath & Portland, the group now being turned round by former merchant banker, Mr David Macdonald.

Kent's B & P shares are subject to an agreement not to bid and Mr Macdonald would be likely to resist a backdoor bid from Beazer.

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 Index: 1143.7 up 8.5
FT Index: 876.0 up 12.8
FT Gilt: 80.95 down 0.05
FT All Share: 538.25 up 3.96
Bargains: 16,161
Distressed USM Leaders
Index: 103.64 up 1.47
New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average: (latest) 1190.70 up 8.17
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 10,584.58 down 53.00
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 983.74 up 8.97

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE

Sterling change on week
Index 75.6 up 0.3
\$1 226.0 down 125pts
DM 3 800.0 up 0.025
FF 11.68 up 0.10
Yen 303.75 down 2.00
Dollar
Index 143.0 up 1.30
DM 3 1050.0 up 0.0565

NEW YORK

Sterling \$1.2240
Dollar DM 3.1160

INTERNATIONAL

ECU 0.588215
SDR 0.808158

BOARD MEETINGS

TODAY - Interims: Bonus Bond Holdings, Frank G. Gates, Michelin Tyre, Rand Mines Group (quarterly), UEL.

Finals: Armour Trust, Albert Fisher, Medminster TOMORROW - Interims: Air Cal, Feb International, Harrolds and Croftfield, Hunting Petroleum Services, Walter Lawrence.

Finals: Cradley Print, Five Oaks Investments, Palerson Zochonis, Peachey Property WEDNESDAY - Interims: British Home Stores, City of Oxford Investment Trust, Duport, Edmond Holdings, Energy Services and Electronics, Hanover Investments, Hawker Siddeley, Marshall's Universal, Scottish Mortgage and Trust, Securities Trust of Scotland, Smith St Aubyn, Western Bros.

Finals: Bejam, Eleco, Old Court International Reserves, TV South West.

THURSDAY - Interims: Anchor Chemical, MY Dart, East Rand Gold, Greenbank Industrial Holdings, London Atlantic Investment Trust, Orange Free State Gold (quarterly), Selincourt, SI Group, Slenight Holdings, Smaller Companies International Trust, Transvaal Gold Mining (quarterly).

Finals: Free State Gold Mines, S. Lyles, President Brand Gold, President Styan Gold, W Tyzak, Sons and Turner, Walker and Homer, Welkom Gold, Western Holdings.

FRIDAY - Interims: Barlows, Fornum and Mason, Forward Technology, Lake View Investment Trust, Scottish TV. Final: Lowland Investment North Sea Assets.

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The Council of The Stock Exchange in London has granted permission for Bonds in the denomination of £1,000 constituting the above issue to be admitted to the Official List, subject to the issue of the Bonds. Interest is payable annually in arrears on 15th October in each year, the first such payment being due on 15th October, 1985.

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London EC2A 1JA.

Pannura Gordon & Co.,
6 Moorfields Highway,
London EC2Y 9DS.

Scripps Gourlay & Co.,
20 Coltham Avenue,
London EC2R 7JS.

5th October, 1984

The above is a partner and chief economist of de Zotte & Bevan.

US continues to hold key for bonds

Michael Hughes

The view expressed in our last contribution to this series (on September 17) suggested, that over the autumn domestic influences on the gilt-edged market would be broadly neutral. US developments, it was argued, might therefore be more important in determining the direction of the market in this period. We see little from recent evidence to alter this conclusion.

In the last month, US news has become modestly more encouraging for bonds. US money rates have fallen by about 5 percentage point, while long bond prices have risen by up to 1 percentage point.

Both US money market rates and long bond prices, however, have been very volatile. UK bond prices have behaved slightly better, rising by 2 percentage points at the long-end over the same period.

The coming week brings important new evidence on the state of the US real economy. If, as we expect, it shows a further slowdown in growth, bond prices should continue to trend upwards, even though the volatility about that trend should remain high.

Recent evidence also emphasises some powerful bullish domestic factors. The Bank of England's latest Quarterly Bulletin usefully summarized one factor. "Given the unusually

heavy front-end loading of the PSBR, this means that funding is comfortably ahead of the year as a whole." The Bulletin went on, "there is thus some margin in hand against any pick-up in private sector credit demand in the months ahead."

The implication that their funding needs for this year have been completed presents a very acceptable policy choice. Should they keep net funding during the second half of this fiscal year extremely low, thereby encouraging yields to fall but then accepting the possibility of this reversing when funding needs to be aggressive again around the beginning of the next fiscal year? Alternatively, should they overfund, albeit on a more modest scale than of late, thereby limiting the reduction in yields but, on a six month view, helping to stabilize the yield structure?

Even if we assume the latter path, and this does seem the most likely, a background of minimal funding pressures and exceptionally high institutional liquidity must surely be seen to be very favourable for gilts. What are the offsetting negative

factors? We would suggest four. There is a concern that the fiscal year 1985-86 will bring increased financing needs. The net direct and indirect PSBR costs of the miners' dispute in the fiscal year following a settlement could be greater than in the year of the dispute.

The inflation news is beginning to be negative. The reported inflation indices have yet to give any real cause for concern. But we have entered the "aggressive phase" of the wages cycle.

Sterling still appears to be vulnerable. The high level of industrial disputes and an expected fall in UK interest rates are again making their mark.

Finally, there are beginning to be concerns voiced about the possible choices facing a tax reforming chancellor. The gilt-edged market, together with pension funds, are the two main areas of the savings market which still enjoy a high degree of tax privilege.

Despite a favourable flow of funds picture, there are still negative domestic factors. On balance, our short-term view is that UK bond yields can come

down provided that US bond yields are also falling. We do not yet believe that the balance of domestic evidence is sufficiently favourable to allow UK yield changes to diverge significantly from changes in US yields. So our attention is still focused on US developments.

The direction of US policy is crucial. If, as we suspect, the evidence of a weakening economy gathers momentum, then the resolve to reduce the US budget deficit will reduce.

The lesson for UK gilt-edged investors may be not to look for the inevitable adjustment process to begin with a change of heart on the US budget deficit.

That does not seem to be on the cards. Look instead at the squeeze an overvalued exchange rate can place on the US corporate sector which, despite the recovery, is still financially fragile. These pressures could lead to further squeezes on liquidity in the US credit markets and this in turn could provide the stimulus for a change of direction in US economic policy. This process could take months not weeks. In the meantime, it would be wise not to regard the US election as the signal for a change in policy stance.

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Capitalization and week's change

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[illegible]

18.8m	British Oil	41	-2
14.1m	Re Borneo	513	
1,157.0m	Brunei	231	-7

[illegible]

House	122	+1½	5.4	4.5	16.5
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[illegible]

70	72	-1	7.5	7.1	8.8
71	73	-2	12.1	5.4	11.1

[illegible]

1987	276	-3	11.1	6.2	8.0
1988	25	-	-	-	3.5
1989	144	..	10.7	7.4	8.0
1990	182	..	5.8	3.6	12.1

[illegible]

108	75	4.8	4.5	12.2
109	76	2.9	2.7	9.2
110	77	2.4	2.4	5.8

[illegible]

S-Z

\$1,157.7m	Orion Corp (NY)	35	2.8	7.4	4.9
\$1,003,000,000	Sale Veonco	77	2.1	2.7	4.9
\$2,482,000,000	Standard Filter	81	8.5	6.8	5.1
\$3,114,000,000	Tenneco Inc	94	4.6	7.1	6.6
\$6.0m	Tobacco	108	8.7	8.9	5.5
\$4,695,000,000	United	109	3.5	7.2	6.8
	Yankee	128	7.1	6.2	9.7

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● Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. d Interim payment passed. e Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. i Pre-merger figures. j Forecast earnings. k Ex capital distribution. l Ex rights. m Ex scrip or share split. n 1 x free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. No significant data.

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The Unit Trust Association starts its two-day silver jubilee international conference in London today. We look at latest developments in the industry

Unit trusts

THE unit trust industry has never been better placed to take advantage of the revolution taking place in the City and the enormous opportunities for expansion which now present themselves.

Unit trusts have - in booming stockmarkets - increased the value of funds under management from £3,972m at the beginning of 1979 to £13,251m today. Not all of this spectacular increase is due to a rise in share prices because there has been considerable real growth in investors and the sums invested.

The *Financial Times* index rose by 178 per cent over the period standing at just over 480 in January 1979, compared with today's figure around the 850 level. But the value of unit trusts' funds under management has gone up by 337 per cent.

Comparing the industry as a whole, with its huge spread of international investments, with the domestic indices as a crude yardstick but it does reveal just how successful the unit trust industry has been in terms of investment performance and in rounding up new customers.

It is difficult to judge the increase in numbers of unit-holders because the statistics reveal only the number of accounts - not the number of investors - and there is much duplication.

The number of accounts has risen from 1,950,000 in January 1979 to 2,157,000, which is well below the all-time high of 2,431,000 reached in June 1970.

"The number of individuals that the account-holder figures represent is probably no more than a million, which is very small for a population of 55m people", commented Mr Tim Miller, marketing director of the successful Framlington Group, who believes that one of the major challenges facing the industry is the need to expand the number of investors.

As part of its policy of fiscal neutrality, this Conservative government has done much to liberalise the world in which unit trusts operate. One of its first moves was to abolish controls on unit trust management charges, closely followed by the removal of Capital Gains Tax on funds' profits, making unit trusts effectively tax-free

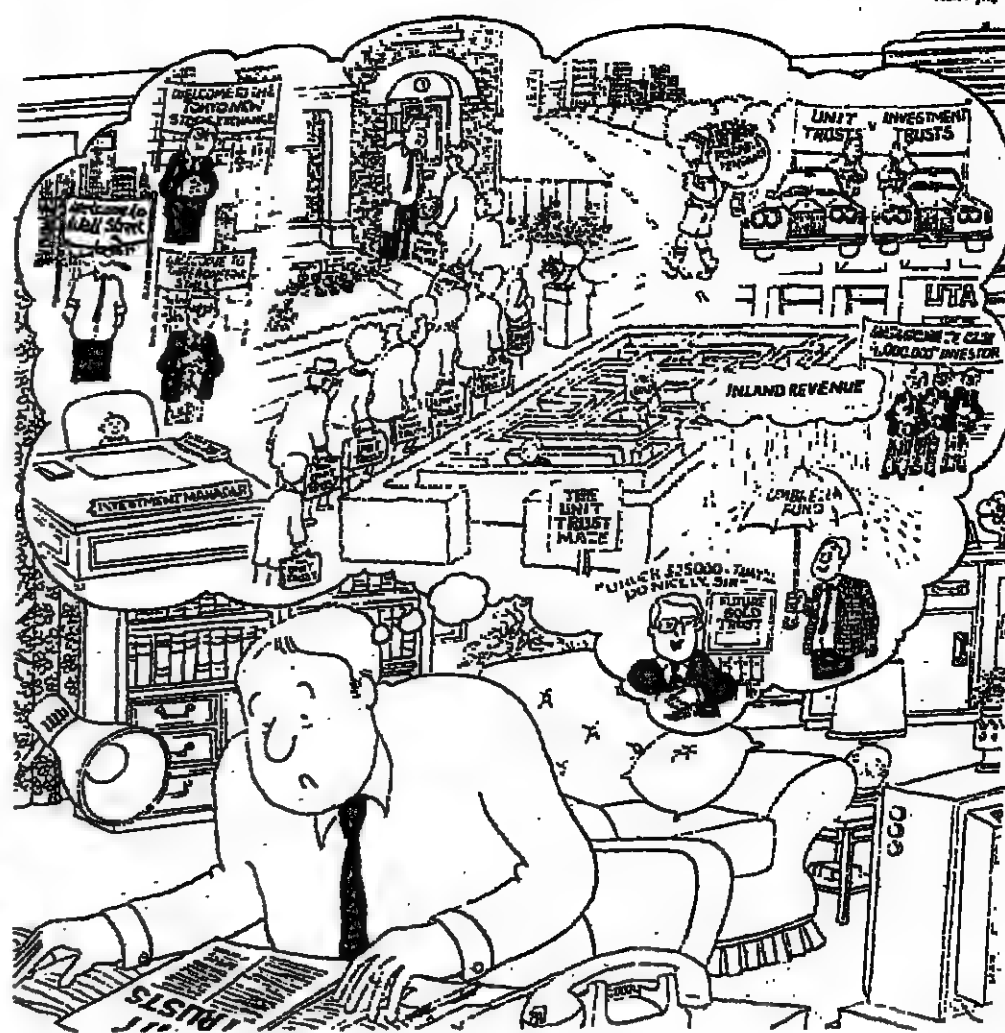
This fair wind blew even stronger when one of the main planks of the opposition's platform crumbled with the removal of life assurance premium relief on life policies. With the insurers still reeling from this unexpected blow, unit trust managers are wending themselves up to face new marketing challenges.

"It has become terribly competitive and raises the general perception of unit trusts as an investment vehicle in the minds of the public," says Mr Miller.

The removal of exchange controls in 1979, which benefited fund managers generally, had particular knock-on effects for unit trusts.

"The absolute essence of a unit trust is that it provides a handy package for doing things that the individual would otherwise have difficulty in doing by himself," explains Mr Miller. The removal of exchange controls opened up foreign markets to UK investors, but the high cost of dealing effectively precluded all but the very rich from taking advantage of this or would have done had the unit trust industry not leapt at the chance to wrap up overseas equities in unit trust packages.

Much of the growth in the numbers of funds on offer is attributable to the massive diversification and specialisation which has taken place in



investments for personal pensions when this sector of the investment market is liberalised points to an exciting future for the industry.

Perhaps the only fly in the ointment is the question of commissions and competition from the life assurance industry.

Like the building societies, unit trusts have come relatively late to computerization, but are now benefiting from the huge advances which have been made on the technological front.

But how will the industry cope with the fierce battle for

salesmen already offering customers both types of products.

But it will be interesting to see how the unit trust only groups, and those with minimal sales through insurance, deal with this dilemma.

Those groups with an impressive track record will have no trouble selling their wares. But there are those within the industry who believe that pressure will come from groups which are losing ground for an increase in the maximum commission levels in order to finance a greater advertising and sales push.

Already the UTA has bowed to the inevitable on regular savings schemes, announcing a new structure which gives the salesman commission of anything up to 20 per cent of the first year's contributions.

It will be a sad day if the UTA agreement goes the same way as the Life Offices Association and collapses.

If this happens it will be in the consumers' best interest if the Government carries out its threat and forces disclosure of commissions across the board on all investment products and services.

Lorna Bourke

"On the tax side unit trusts are as near perfect as possible... and when personal pensions are liberalized it will be an exciting future"

the past five years. In January 1979 there were only 384 unit trusts available to the general public compared with today's 658, covering such areas as health care, high technology, international emerging companies, and the like. Indeed, some are asking if specialization has not gone too far.

Specialist funds produce more volatile performances and the upshot has been a change in the profile of the average unit trust investor as younger more speculative punters have been enticed into the market attracted by high returns.

As a young expanding industry, with little in the way of overheads, the industry is well placed to cope with compe-

consumers' money now taking place in the retail market? And what will be the effect of the revolution already under way in the City - in particular among the stockbroking community?

Most fund managers believe that the abolition of fixed commissions for stockbrokers and the resultant search for income will force brokers to put up their prices to private clients. This can only make the unit trust route - already cheaper for small share deals - an even more attractive proposition.

On the tax side, unit trusts are as near a perfect investment vehicle as it is possible to achieve. And the likelihood of them qualifying as eligible

with its teams of doorstep salesmen.

It is difficult to see how the Unit Trust Association's agreement on sales commission can remain intact given the direct onslaught from the insurers. To the investing public there is little to choose between a unit trust and a unitised insurance company bond. To the salesman - who may well have both products in his investment portfolio - the difference is three per cent or more commission on the sale of the bond.

Many groups within the industry suffer such internal conflict - Abbey Life and Allied Hambro being the two most obvious examples. Selected Abbey and Allied Hambro

Capital gains ruling makes these schemes the

Now you can go to sleep counting your equities

very recent past, for example, technology funds will have done relatively badly but over longer periods most types of unit trust measure up well on performance. The basic question for the investor, as Paul Bateman of S&P puts it, is "whether you put your money in a capital risk type investment or not?"

So for the investor interested in equities, are unit trusts really the best route? There is, of course, the option of "going it alone" - choosing and buying your own choice of shares with the help of a stockbroker. But this is time-consuming and virtually excludes most investors from foreign markets.

The obvious alternative to unit trusts are the investment trusts, which offer the same kind of professional management and widely-spread portfolio which the independent investor cannot provide for himself.

There is often not much to choose in performance between the two types of trust over the short term. And a recent survey of investment trusts by brokers Wood Mackenzie concluded

Continued facing page

Save & Prosper Unit Trusts

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Founded in 1934, Save & Prosper Group was one of the pioneers of the unit trust movement. Today, our range of 29 unit trusts covers the world's major investment markets and sectors.

Over the years Save & Prosper has been responsible for many important innovations, from the launch of Investment Trust Units in 1937 through to Britain's first American Income & Growth Fund in February this year. With a high yield and a strong capital performance, the Fund has grown to over £17 million in just 6 months, and the offer price has risen by 12.6%.

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1934-1984

50TH ANNIVERSARY

SAVE & PROSPER

The decision by the Unit Trust Association to raise the front end commission on regular savings schemes revealed a number of important divisions within the industry. There was, and still is, disagreement about the whole principle of higher commission rates and there is disagreement about what effect it will have.

Regular savings schemes have been sold by unit trust companies in a low-key way for some time. They enable investors to put small amounts of money, say £20 a month, into a trust of their choice but the payments are not contractual so investors can stop paying or even withdraw money whenever they want. A lot of administration is involved in this and most companies say schemes are a service to investors rather than a company profit maker.

The savings schemes previously lost out to insurance company schemes which had the advantage of 15 per cent life assurance premium tax relief. But with that gone the opportunity of selling more unit trust schemes - which improved technology is now making cheaper to administer - is too strong to resist for some companies. Britannia will almost certainly go for the new commission rates. Save & Prosper is considering it.

More attractive than others

The opponents of the new rates take a number of views. Mr Peter Scott of Gartmore says: "Though our scheme was not profitable in itself it was a valuable introduction to unit trust investment for people who would not otherwise have thought of this route." His company intends to continue selling the scheme on this basis.

Other companies opposed to the new commission rate object that while the schemes remain non-contractual the fee structure will make it extremely unattractive for investors to withdraw in the first five years or so. The high initial charges will act very much like the withdrawal penalties on many insurance-linked schemes.

What effect will the new commission rate have on marketing? "If some companies introduce it and it is successful in selling many more schemes, others will follow," says Mr Tony Smith of the UTA.

Whichever way they are marketed, the industry is almost certainly right that its savings schemes are now more attractive than most of the choices on offer. They are, after all, one of the most tax efficient investment vehicles around. Unit trusts pay no capital gains tax. As long as the investment remains in unit trusts of one sort or another the

capital gains can accrue unaffected by tax which is only payable by the investor when he finally sells his units. This compares with the rival insurance-based schemes which must pay capital gains tax every time a switch is made.

Since the loss of life assurance premium relief probably the only investors to whom the traditional insurance-based maximum investment plan is of any special advantage are higher rate taxpayers.

As long as the investment is left in a maximum investment plan for the full ten years no tax is payable on the proceeds. For anyone in a 50 or 60 per cent tax band this kind of exemption is extremely attractive - but ten years is a long time to wait. So for lower rate taxpayers to whom the final tax exemption is not so crucial and who are therefore less willing to wait so long, insurance companies are increasingly offering five-year investment plans. These only qualify for final tax relief after five years to basic rate taxpayers. And as well as being subject to continual COT charges the investor loses certain bonuses if he withdraws his money early. The net result is a scheme similar to the likely form of the new higher cost unit trust schemes but much more expensive than current unit trust plans.

As well as delivering a severe blow to insurance plans, the March Budget virtually pulverised another tax efficient alternative: tax-exempt friendly societies. By more than halving the sum assured allowed on friendly society schemes to a maximum of £750, the Chancellor ensured that annual contributions could be not more than around £100. This had the desired effect of making the plans so small that many investors would not bother with them.

National Savings certificates are not strictly comparable to unit trust savings plans because they require a single lump sum payment, but the unjustly ignored Yearly Plan is intended as a regular savings plan. For a regular monthly investment over one year it gives a tax free return, like the certificates, an extremely attractive 9.06 per cent.

It costs nothing in charges or commissions and the only drawback is that, like an insurance scheme, the investment must remain for the specified period otherwise full tax relief is not forthcoming.

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UNIT TRUSTS

Too many specialists on the switchback?

"Up at the top one year and down at the bottom the next" is how the cynics sum up the trend towards the launch of more and more specialist unit trusts. But whatever the merits or demerits of a more volatile performance, unit trust groups are acutely aware that specialist funds sell a whole lot better than a traditional unexciting general fund with a broad investment objective and a likely middle of the road performance record.

Unfortunately, long term performance counts for little in the unit trust industry and managers get more brownie points for appearing at the top of the one-year performance tables after a few years in the wilderness than a steady performance year after year. How many investors are aware that the best performing unit trust over the last five years was MIA with a price rise of 361.7 per cent? But anybody who has any interest in unit trusts will know that the best performer over the last 12 months was Fidelity Japan with a 60.6 per cent price rise.

Unit trust managers sometimes balk at being judged on the basis of short term performance alone, but are happy to take advantage of this in their advertisements when individual funds within their stable show up well. Any pretence of insisting that performance comparisons should be on the basis of five years or more was effectively buried a few years ago when the obligation to include the words "you should consider your investment as long term" in all advertisements was removed.

While performance comparisons over shorter and shorter periods have contributed to the movement towards specialist funds, the major factor has undoubtedly been the need to satisfy the demands of the investment adviser who has

become an increasingly important source of new business.

Ten years ago there were just over 300 unit trusts, now there are more than 600. In the intervening period the tax legislation affecting investments has changed dramatically and this has been instrumental in the growth of the industry itself. Unit trusts have benefited from the removal of internal capital gains tax liability on the funds themselves, which has enabled investors to switch between funds more readily and the move towards fiscal harmony means that many of the tax advantages previously offered by other investment media have been systematically withdrawn.

As tax efficiency has become less and less important in determining investment choice, so advantages of unit trusts have become more apparent. They offer a greater spread of risk and for most investors they represent a cheaper way of buying equities than through the Stock Exchange.

Inevitably, as advisers began to recommend unit trusts to their clients so their demands grew both in terms of service and the range of funds on offer. Naturally, as specific industrial and geographical sectors came into favour and underlying equities began to show meteoric price rises, so the requests for specific funds concentrating on fashionable areas became more vociferous. And with financial advisers accounting for nearly two-thirds of new business for many unit trust groups, and sometimes as much as 80 per cent, there was still little resistance to these demands.

Not everybody in the unit trust industry is happy with this

trend towards an ever-growing number of unit trusts. There are many who argue that the plethora of specialist funds is exactly what most investors do not need.

By offering a widening range of funds, managers are accused of abdication of their investment responsibility so that today it is the investor himself who must make the fundamental decision as to which fund his money should be invested.

Professional advisers, however, clearly prefer a range of funds which they pick and recommend to their clients. And in the main they have won

Median performance of funds over last five years

Type of fund	Percentage gain
UK Growth	133.8
North American	164.4
Far East	121.2
Japan	253.4
European	85.1
Australian	38.7
International	150.2

Figures to October 1. Source: Planned Savings. Only funds in use "only 3 funds in total".

the day as management groups have launched funds with increasingly narrow investment objectives.

A few years ago funds could generally be distinguished by geographical area. Thus there were Japanese funds, North American funds, and a huge number of UK funds. Now there are individual unit trust groups which within their stable include a Japan fund and a Japanese Smaller Company fund; these same groups may also have a North American fund, an American recovery fund, and an American Smaller

Companies Fund. What is the difference between the trusts? The managers can give an answer, but to most investors it is not immediately obvious.

Officially, there are fifteen different categories of funds, but even this does not give a true picture of the variety of unit trusts. For example, there was a time when income unit trusts were invested in high yielding UK equities. Now there are American equity income funds, and no doubt there will soon be a Singapore Income Fund.

Clearly, the more narrowly defined the funds become the more volatile will be their performance. Such volatility encourages switching and now there is a large number of unit trust advisers who will move their clients between funds with the aim of achieving superior investment performance. Whether they do any better for their clients by switching on a regular basis is difficult to gauge. But at least investors have the yardstick of the international fund by which to judge their success.

Most unit trust groups run an international fund which supposedly has the world as its oyster, but for the most part this has not helped the managers achieve any notably better performance.

As shown by the table, the median international fund has been outperformed by its counterparts in the specialist American and Japanese sectors, and only just matched the median Far East fund. Had the relative investment performance of international funds as a whole been that much better the appeal of the specialist funds would have been more difficult to justify.

As it is, the proliferation of specialist funds is bound to continue as different investment sectors come in and out of favour. **Niall Sweeney**

Arbuthnot takes its portfolio to court

So far as product innovation goes, 1984 is proving an interesting year for the unit trust industry. One key factor was the abolition of life insurance tax relief in the last Budget, since when unit-linked savings plan sales have dropped sharply and thinking caps have been the order of the day in the City's marketing departments.

There has been an effort to construct new kinds of savings vehicles to cut the demand for regular savings plans and at the same time the battle for personal savings has been intense. The building societies have been offering investors high returns, as have National Savings, while the unit trust groups have been turning their

attention to the customer who needs a regular monthly income.

But by far the most interesting development was the launch of the Arbuthnot portfolio trust last spring. This was designed to offer investors a cheaper and more tax-efficient way of switching funds between different world stock markets. The new trust has been controversial because it is designed to defer indefinitely any capital gains tax liability and has departed from the Unit Trust Association's practice on paying commission.

But it is the eventual resolution of the tax situation which could have profound

implications for the rest of the unit trust industry.

The portfolio trust has already been dubbed "an umbrella fund". Though it is established as a single trust, there are four different portfolios - UK, the US, Japan and Europe, plus more recently a deposit fund into which investors can switch their cash if they want to go liquid. The minimum investment is £1,000, with a minimum of £500 for each separate portfolio. The charging structure is quite different from the norm. The spread between the bid and offer price of the fund is only 3½ per cent - roughly half the average in the unit trust industry. But the annual management charge is 2½ per cent against the normal 1 per cent. This covers the renewal commission to intermediaries. In each 12 months the unit holder can switch portfolios free of charge.

Arbuthnot argues that the structure of the portfolio trust is more economic for those unit holders who like to switch investment between different markets than the conventional practice where you lose the larger difference between the bid and offer prices.

Whether an investor breaks even or benefits from the deal depends on how the switching facility is used. At least as interesting will be the results of a test case in the courts next month to resolve the tax status of the fund. Arbuthnot is contending that the portfolio trust is one trust and not a fund of funds type structure. Therefore, there should be no capital gains tax liability until the investor sells the holding in the trust itself. Arbuthnot contends that if the investor switches from the Japan to the US portfolio it does not constitute realising profits. Arbuthnot clearly plans to introduce other portfolios within the trust, making a "cradle to grave" kind of vehicle which could defer capital gains tax liabilities indefinitely.

In the interests of speed, it has been agreed that the test case in the courts will be fought on the issue of Stamp Duty - whether this is payable on switches into the portfolio trust. The Inland Revenue has agreed that this will establish also the tax status of the switching arrangements as far as capital gains tax is concerned.

The other controversial aspect of the portfolio trust is the charging structure. Intermediaries are to be paid annual renewal commission out of the larger management charge. Since Arbuthnot left the UTA because of a difference over this there has been a significant change in the official line on commission. The Unit Trust Association has voted to allow its members to charge up to 20 per cent commission on regular unit trust savings schemes, which have been around for years but rarely promoted.

Until the last Budget it was much more profitable to sell linked savings plans which carry the higher rates of commission payable on insurance. Now that unit-linked plans have lost their tax appeal, the industry has been casting around for an alternative product to fill the commission gap.

Some groups like Save and Prosper have launched five-year unit trust savings plans based on an insurance policy. But now that the UTA rules on commissions has been relaxed, others are considering starting a new generation of regular unit trust savings schemes to be promoted by intermediaries who can be paid out of the permitted new higher commissions. Others maintain they will stick with their existing non-commission plans.

What change in regular savings schemes seem to have more to do with maximizing commissions than fulfilling the requirements of investors, the new breed of income plan on offer from some unit trust groups seems to answer a real demand for a simple way of getting regular monthly income plus the possibility of capital growth.

Monthly income schemes have been on offer for some time from groups like Britannia, Henderson and Gartmore. Basically, they consist of a number of different funds with different dividend dates arranged so that the investor gets a monthly payout, usually of varying amounts.

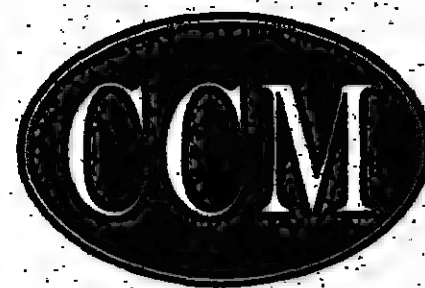
Margaret Drummond

With this kind of personal choice the effects on the unit trust industry could be enormous. Here would be money that people had to invest by law, but which they might not be sure exactly what to do with. The potential size of the new market would run into billions of pounds sterling.

The response of the unit trust industry to this challenge is a matter of conjecture, but most participants agree that it would lead to an unprecedented marketing drive by the management companies.

Many unit trust companies have shifted away from the sales force approach on the grounds that it is unnecessary and expensive. But companies might have to change tune to compete with the sales muscle of the insurance companies if various savings and loan institutions (the US version of unit trusts) as one area of investment. Alternatively the Government may decide that pensions still have to be operated through insurance schemes, but even this way it is likely that they will be allowed a greater say in the way the money is invested.

RT



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that over longer periods investment trusts have actually outperformed unit trusts, often quite comfortably.

The survey shows that over the five years from December 1978 to December 1983 unit trusts produced a total return of 142.3 per cent, while investment trusts shares managed 197.4 per cent - 22.7 per cent better than unit trusts.

Though investment trusts make much play over the discount, currently averaging around 24 per cent, at which their shares sell, to their underlying asset value, the difference creates difficulties for the investor. He must watch not only the asset performance but the share movement as well, keeping an eye on the sector as a whole and his own trust in particular.

Keeping track of the investment trust sector appears to be becoming more complicated. A number of trusts have been taken over and amalgamated recently; others, like Anglo-Scottish, have been split into separate investment and unit trusts.

It is a tribute to the success of the unit trust industry that these changes in the investment trust



Peter Scott, of Gartmore. "Our scheme was a valuable introduction method."

sector seem designed to make the investment trusts more like unit trusts: smaller, more specialized, more accessible to the small investor. If investment trusts do succeed in attracting more small investors, the unit trust industry will be faced with the challenge it cannot ignore. In the meantime, however, the unit trust investor can sleep soundly in the knowledge that for equity investments he has chosen a sensible and simple route, and has not lost out on any tremendous opportunities elsewhere.

Richard Thomson

COMPARISON OF TOP TEN UNIT TRUSTS AND TOP TEN INVESTMENT TRUSTS (asset and share values): VALUE OF £100 INVESTED OVER 12 MONTHS AT AUGUST 31, 1984

Top ten unit trusts	£	Top ten investment trusts	£
Fidelity Japan	157.5	Safeguard Industrial	155.8
S&P Japan Smaller Cos	146.9	Mit Wynd International	141.8
Target Income	141.7	Flamingo Japanese	139.3
GRIF Property Shares	131.3	Bellife Gifford Japan	138.6
Ordnance Property Shares	127.5	Anglo-Scottish	138.5
Mercury Japan	126.4	Planning Enterprise	136.2
Investment Extra Income	125.4	Japan Assets	135.2
Gartmore High Income	124.5	London Property	128.8
UK Shared Profits	123.8	Anglo-Amer Securities	123.2
Target Special Sit	123.1	Murray Income	123.2

Source: The Association of Investment Trust Companies and Money Magazine.

The changes in pensions legislation planned by the Government is likely to take longer to come through than many other changes in the unit trust industry. But when it does, depending on its shape and form, it could have a bigger effect than all the others.

The Government has committed itself to loosening up the present arrangements for people's pensions, for provisions, which will almost certainly mean breaking the monopoly of the vast pension fund industry and the insurance companies in the employee pensions field. Now the unit trust managers are wondering how much of a look-in they will get.

It is not new for unit trusts to be used for pensions investment, particularly for self-employed plans, observed one unit trust manager. But if the Unit Trust Association has its way, unit trusts will become a major investment vehicle in all areas of pensions.

A large part of the Government's intentions is to make pensions "portable" so that the two-thirds of the working population which changes jobs

You can take it with when you go

once or more during their working lives do not lose out. Instead of leaving a trail of pension plans behind, these people would have one which moved with them to their new employment.

The UTA says that if portable pensions do take off, unit trusts should be a permitted investment, says Tony Smith of the UTA. The Government's advisory document, so far its only indicator, mentions unit trusts as one among a number of possible investment vehicles for the new type of pension. Building societies and banks are others.

Unit trusts suit the Government's claims admirably, claims the UTA. They are easier for the public to understand than the impersonal workings of a vast pension fund, investors can easily see how money is invested and what the units are worth at any given time. The

system of owning units rather than just a fraction of a pension fund is helpful in enabling investors to know exactly how much of a fund is theirs.

But the dream of individuals' control over their pension money has still to be decided. What the UTA would like ideally is a system like the one in the US. Portable pensions there are known as Individual Retirement Accounts and each account holder can choose, within certain limits, how to invest the money in his account. They are free, for example, to choose from the various savings and loan institutions (the US version of unit trusts) as one area of investment. Alternatively the Government may decide that pensions still have to be operated through insurance schemes, but even this way it is likely that they will be allowed a greater say in the way the money is invested.

SECOND leads the way

Before making an investment in a unit trust you should expect the managers to tell you how well it has performed over the long term. The table shows that M&G SECOND General has a 28-year performance record to show about it. It has achieved its aim of providing growth of both capital and income through investment mainly in British companies, including some with overseas interests.

£1,000 invested at the Fund launch in June 1956 grew to a staggering £42,875, with income reinvested, by 1st October 1984, compared with £7,183 from a similar investment in a Building Society and £4,241 in National Savings Certificates. Over the same period you would have needed £8,081 to have kept up with the cost of living.

You might, of course, have invested directly in blue-chip shares and in some of them you could have done very well. However, you should remember that many of the respected household names of the 1950s, like British Motor Corporation, have been very disappointing investments. Today, only 12 of the 30 shares which made up the Financial Times Industrial Ordinary Index in 1956 are still included in it. Many individual shares which are popular today may also turn out to be poor investments.

The advantage of investing in M&G SECOND is that it is a general fund with a wide spread of shares under constant review by a full time manager.

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On 9th October 1984 the estimated gross current yield was 4.05% at an offered price for Accumulation units of 98.1p. Prices and yields appear daily in the Financial Times. An initial charge of 5% is included in the offered price and an annual charge of a maximum of 1% of the Fund's value - currently 34% - plus VAT is deducted from gross income. Distributions for income units are paid net of basic rate tax on 15th February and 15th August and are reinvested for Accumulation units to increase the value of the units. The next distribution date for new investors will be 15th February 1985. You can buy or sell units on any business day. Contracts for purchase or sale will be due for settlement 2 or 3 weeks later. Remuneration is payable to accredited agents; rates are available on request.

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COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE RECORD OF £1,000 INVESTED AT THE LAUNCH OF M&G SECOND ON THE 5TH JUNE 1956 WITH NET INCOME REINVESTED					
Year to 31 December	M&G SECOND	FT 100 INDEX	REAL PRICE INDEX	BUILDING SOCIETY (10% Extra)	NATIONAL SAVINGS CERTIFICATES
5 JUNE 56	£1,000	£1,000	£1,000	£1,000	£1,000
1956	1,019	1,039	1,040	1,027	1,009
1957	969	983	1,008	1,019	1,030
1958	1,378	1,404	1,108	1,133	1,081
1959	2,420	2,168	1,188	1,189	1,084
1960	1,953	2,008	1,129	1,248	1,127
1961	2,193	2,065	1,179	1,312	1,282
1962	2,282	1,979	1,208	1,382	1,197
1963	2,838	2,514	1,231	1,452	1,234
1964	2,799	2,470	1,290	1,526	1,271
1965	3,194	2,623	1,349	1,609	1,310
1966	3,056	2,472	1,399	1,699	1,350
1967	4,071	3,210	1,517	1,798	1,412
1968	5,588	4,278	1,517	1,906	1,476
1969	4,830	3,495	1,589	2,029	1,543
1970	4,753	3,054	1,714	2,163	1,814
1971	7,199	4,314	1,868	2,306	1,687
1972	9,450	4,633	2,011	2,458	1,784
1973	7,168	3,282	2,224	2,661	1,897
1974	5,020	1,651	2,650	2,906	1,899
1975	8,124	3,982	3,310	3,165	2,109
1976	8,004	3,899	3,809	3,437	2,270
1977	12,220	5,585	4,272	3,735	2,442
1978	13,630	5,590	4,632	4,032	2,627
1979	14,860	5,165	5,428	4,443	2,827
1980	20,861	6,160	6,249	4,983	3,066
1981	22,878	7,200	7,002	5,584	3,325
1982	25,680	7,586	7,380	6,108	3,606
1983	37,654	11,274	7,773	6,617	3,910
1 OCT 84	42,875	13,033	8,081	7,183	4,241

NOTES: 1. M&G SECOND figures are all in real terms. 2. The FT Ordinary Index adjusted to include interest net of net income. 3. Building Society figures include reinvested interest. 1974 shows the average yearly rate. Source: Building Society Association. A National Savings Certificate is based on the average yearly rate. Certificates are assumed to be held to maturity and reinvested in the next available cash investment (unless otherwise specified). Values are as at 30th June in each year. (Source: Department of National Savings)

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THE M&G GROUP

RACING: DAVID O'BRIEN'S FILLY BEATS COLTS TO TAKE TOP EUROPEAN PRIZE

Cadmium can advertise Cole's juvenile strength

At the start of a week that will see him try to win the coveted Dewhurst Stakes at Newmarket on Friday for the first time since his Waafi, Paul Cole, the Lambourn trainer, must pick up a share of encouragement by watching another of his promising two-year-olds, Cadmium (nap), win the second division of the Dorking Stakes at Sandown park this afternoon.

Discussing today's race yesterday, Cole told me that Cadmium will be hard to beat as long as they go a really good gallop because that will bring into play the stamina that he has inherited from his sire, Niniski.

When last seen Cadmium was a sound two-length runner-up to Royal Coach in the Chromocyp Stakes over a mile at Goodwood. So today's distance with its stiff uphill finish will not pose a problem. Having seen another of his two-year-olds beat Albatross four lengths at Lingfield Park recently, Cole knows where he stands as far as Stewart Matthews's colt is concerned. A greater threat could easily

be Lord Grundy, whose close relations, Marwell and Lord Seymour, do so well in their heyday. Running for the first time in his life, Lord Grundy must have surprised Michael Scoute, his trainer when he managed to finish in front of his better-fancied stable companion, Kalgour, in the race won by Tom Boat at Sandown last month. Promising though that performance was - he finished sixth, beaten about five lengths - he finished sixth, beaten about five lengths - I still prefer Cadmium.

With Concorde Affair, Fluffy Hills and Timber Tool all standing their ground along with several other well-bred newcomers, the first division of the Dorking Stakes looks much less cut and dried. In circumstances like this it often pays to follow a fancied runner from Henry Cecil's yard, so with encouragement from our Newmarket correspondent, I go along with Concorde Affair, who won his first race at Brighton nicely.

Lester Piggott, who rides him, can also win the Rookery

Handicap on Primavera Dancer, who beat Captain Becher recently at Brighton before losing an apprentices' race at Redcar narrowly.

No matter how he gets on in the second race on Timber Tool, Steve Cauthen can take another step towards his first championship by winning the first on the highly-regarded newcomer Lord Hippo. The fact that this colt, who has an abundance of fast Overbury Stud blood in his veins, was declared for a race as good as Saturday's Cornwallis Stakes at Ascot at the four-day stage was evidence that he had been pleasing Fulke Johnson Houghton, his trainer, on the gallops.

At Pontefract, Miranda looks a good bet to win the second division of the Whitley Fillies' Stakes after that pleasing run behind Tundra Goose at Newmarket a little under a fortnight ago. Narse Lad (4.30) should be hard to beat in a similar sort of race at Warwick. Although beaten, he was not disgraced when going under by two lengths to Exchange Control at Lingfield.



Donal (far side) holds the late challenge of Cragside (nearest camera) by a neck with Safka (No 15) the same distance away third in Saturday's Cornwallis Stakes at Ascot. The winner is likely to be kept to sprint distances next year while the runner-up will continue his racing career in California. One Way Street ended her racing days on a high note by winning the day's other group race, the Princess Royal Stakes, and now retires to the Cliveden Stud of her owner, Louis Freedman (Photograph: George Selwyn).

Alydar's Best puts on classic display

From Desmond Stannish, Paris

Alydar's Best became the second successive filly to win the Grand Critérium when she took France's top two-year-old event, the Longchamp-bred filly, to the top of the leaderboard. After a ding-dong battle with River Drummer throughout the final furlong, Alydar's Best finally won by a short neck with No Pass No Side three lengths away third in front of Envol, completely lost his chance when slowly out of the stalls.

Close to the only owner, Alydar's Best, was the group one Prix Marcel Boussac, so the French based impressively showed his 1985 with two fine classic prospects.

David O'Brien decided against running Alydar's Best as she had 10 hours' rest before leaving for the 1985 season. O'Brien, together with Christy Roche took the precaution of "breeding" the filly on Saturday morning at seven o'clock, then went back to the Curragh for the afternoon's racing and returned again to France the same evening. O'Brien finally decided that Alydar's Best was none the worse for what she was allowed to take her chance in the Critérium.

Bought by the agents, Horse France, for \$625,000 at the 1983 Kentucky Yearling Sale, Alydar's Best was unbeaten in her only two starts. She began by trotting up the Silken Glider Stakes at Leopardson

Park and in O'Brien's own words "That did not tell us much as she won so easily."

Roche said after the race: "I should have moved closer to River Drummer at around the four furlong marker. Unfortunately, I lost my whip and that of Astromore, but I really did not need it anyway."

Late Evening made most of the running in the one mile Critérium, and after the race, caught by River Drummer a furlong and a half out and the son of Irish River looked to be holding Alydar's Best. But once the filly got into her stride she began to make rapid progress and was going at the post.

The Epsom Derby could well be the cards for Alydar's Best. O'Brien said after the race: "I will not race her again this season as she will begin 1985 by tackling one of the European 1,000 Guineas."

French riders for this week's Newmarket racing are Noble O'Brien (Dewhurst Stakes) and Carriell, Luthi Echantée and Palace Music (Buben Champion Stakes).

Going out: O'Brien's group 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-100-101-102-103-104-105-106-107-108-109-110-111-112-113-114-115-116-117-118-119-120-121-122-123-124-125-126-127-128-129-130-131-132-133-134-135-136-137-138-139-140-141-142-143-144-145-146-147-148-149-150-151-152-153-154-155-156-157-158-159-160-161-162-163-164-165-166-167-168-169-170-171-172-173-174-175-176-177-178-179-180-181-182-183-184-185-186-187-188-189-190-191-192-193-194-195-196-197-198-199-200-201-202-203-204-205-206-207-208-209-210-211-212-213-214-215-216-217-218-219-220-221-222-223-224-225-226-227-228-229-230-231-232-233-234-235-236-237-238-239-240-241-242-243-244-245-246-247-248-249-250-251-252-253-254-255-256-257-258-259-260-261-262-263-264-265-266-267-268-269-270-271-272-273-274-275-276-277-278-279-280-281-282-283-284-285-286-287-288-289-290-291-292-293-294-295-296-297-298-299-300-301-302-303-304-305-306-307-308-309-310-311-312-313-314-315-316-317-318-319-320-321-322-323-324-325-326-327-328-329-330-331-332-333-334-335-336-337-338-339-340-341-342-343-344-345-346-347-348-349-350-351-352-353-354-355-356-357-358-359-360-361-362-363-364-365-366-367-368-369-370-371-372-373-374-375-376-377-378-379-380-381-382-383-384-385-386-387-388-389-390-391-392-393-394-395-396-397-398-399-400-401-402-403-404-405-406-407-408-409-410-411-412-413-414-415-416-417-418-419-420-421-422-423-424-425-426-427-428-429-430-431-432-433-434-435-436-437-438-439-440-441-442-443-444-445-446-447-448-449-450-451-452-453-454-455-456-457-458-459-460-461-462-463-464-465-466-467-468-469-470-471-472-473-474-475-476-477-478-479-480-481-482-483-484-485-486-487-488-489-490-491-492-493-494-495-496-497-498-499-500-501-502-503-504-505-506-507-508-509-510-511-512-513-514-515-516-517-518-519-520-521-522-523-524-525-526-527-528-529-530-531-532-533-534-535-536-537-538-539-540-541-542-543-544-545-546-547-548-549-550-551-552-553-554-555-556-557-558-559-560-561-562-563-564-565-566-567-568-569-570-571-572-573-574-575-576-577-578-579-580-581-582-583-584-585-586-587-588-589-590-591-592-593-594-595-596-597-598-599-600-601-602-603-604-605-606-607-608-609-610-611-612-613-614-615-616-617-618-619-620-621-622-623-624-625-626-627-628-629-630-631-632-633-634-635-636-637-638-639-640-641-642-643-644-645-646-647-648-649-650-651-652-653-654-655-656-657-658-659-660-661-662-663-664-665-666-667-668-669-670-671-672-673-674-675-676-677-678-679-680-681-682-683-684-685-686-687-688-689-690-691-692-693-694-695-696-697-698-699-700-701-702-703-704-705-706-707-708-709-710-711-712-713-714-715-716-717-718-719-720-721-722-723-724-725-726-727-728-729-730-731-732-733-734-735-736-737-738-739-740-741-742-743-744-745-746-747-748-749-750-751-752-753-754-755-756-757-758-759-760-761-762-763-764-765-766-767-768-769-770-771-772-773-774-775-776-777-778-779-780-781-782-783-784-785-786-787-788-789-790-791-792-793-794-795-796-797-798-799-800-801-802-803-804-805-806-807-808-809-810-811-812-813-814-815-816-817-818-819-820-821-822-823-824-825-826-827-828-829-830-831-832-833-834-835-836-837-838-839-840-841-842-843-844-845-846-847-848-849-850-851-852-853-854-855-856-857-858-859-860-861-862-863-864-865-866-867-868-869-870-871-872-873-874-875-876-877-878-879-880-881-882-883-884-885-886-887-888-889-890-891-892-893-894-895-896-897-898-899-900-901-902-903-904-905-906-907-908-909-910-911-912-913-914-915-916-917-918-919-920-921-922-923-924-925-926-927-928-929-930-931-932-933-934-935-936-937-938-939-940-941-942-943-944-945-946-947-948-949-950-951-952-953-954-955-956-957-958-959-960-961-962-963-964-965-966-967-968-969-970-971-972-973-974-975-976-977-978-979-980-981-982-983-984-985-986-987-988-989-990-991-992-993-994-995-996-997-998-999-1000-1001-1002-1003-1004-1005-1006-1007-1008-1009-1010-1011-1012-1013-1014-1015-1016-1017-1018-1019-1020-1021-1022-1023-1024-1025-1026-1027-1028-1029-1030-1031-1032-1033-1034-1035-1036-1037-1038-1039-1040-1041-1042-1043-1044-1045-1046-1047-1048-1049-1050-1051-1052-1053-1054-1055-1056-1057-1058-1059-1060-1061-1062-1063-1064-1065-1066-1067-1068-1069-1070-1071-1072-1073-1074-1075-1076-1077-1078-1079-1080-1081-1082-1083-1084-1085-1086-1087-1088-1089-1090-1091-1092-1093-1094-1095-1096-1097-1098-1099-1100-1101-1102-1103-1104-1105-1106-1107-1108-1109-1110-1111-1112-1113-1114-1115-1116-1117-1118-1119-1120-1121-1122-1123-1124-1125-1126-1127-1128-1129-1130-1131-1132-1133-1134-1135-1136-1137-1138-1139-1140-1141-1142-1143-1144-1145-1146-1147-1148-1149-1150-1151-1152-1153-1154-1155-1156-1157-1158-1159-1160-1161-1162-1163-1164-1165-1166-1167-1168-1169-1170-1171-1172-1173-1174-1175-1176-1177-1178-1179-1180-1181-1182-1183-1184-1185-1186-1187-1188-1189-1190-1191-1192-1193-1194-1195-1196-1197-1198-1199-1200-1201-1202-1203-1204-1205-1206-1207-1208-1209-1210-1211-1212-1213-1214-1215-1216-1217-1218-1219-1220-1221-1222-1223-1224-1225-1226-1227-1228-1229-1230-1231-1232-1233-1234-1235-1236-1237-1238-1239-1240-1241-1242-1243-1244-1245-1246-1247-1248-1249-1250-1251-1252-1253-1254-1255-1256-1257-1258-1259-1260-1261-1262-1263-1264-1265-1266-1267-1268-1269-1270-1271-1272-1273-1274-1275-1276-1277-1278-1279-1280-1281-1282-1283-1284-1285-1286-1287-1288-1289-1290-1291-1292-1293-1294-1295-1296-1297-1298-1299-1300-1301-1302-1303-1304-1305-1306-1307-1308-1309-1310-1311-1312-1313-1314-1315-1316-1317-1318-1319-1320-1321-1322-1323-1324-1325-1326-1327-1328-1329-1330-1331-1332-1333-1334-1335-1336-1337-1338-1339-1340-1341-1342-1343-1344-1345-1346-1347-1348-1349-1350-1351-1352-1353-1354-1355-1356-1357-1358-1359-1360-1361-1362-1363-1364-1365-1366-1367-1368-1369-1370-1371-1372-1373-1374-1375-1376-1377-1378-1379-1380-1381-1382-1383-1384-1385-1386-1387-1388-1389-1390-1391-1392-1393-1394-1395-1396-1397-1398-1399-1400-1401-1402-1403-1404-1405-1406-1407-1408-1409-1410-1411-1412-1413-1414-1415-1416-1417-1418-1419-1420-1421-1422-1423-1424-1425-1426-1427-1428-1429-1430-1431-1432-1433-1434-1435-1436-1437-1438-1439-1440-1441-1442-1443-1444-1445-1446-1447-1448-1449-1450-1451-1452-1453-1454-1455-1456-1457-1458-1459-1460-1461-1462-1463-1464-1465-1466-1467-1468-1469-1470-1471-1472-1473-1474-1475-1476-1477-1478-1479-1480-1481-1482-1483-1484-1485-1486-1487-1488-1489-1490-1491-1492-1493-1494-1495-1496-1497-1498-1499-1500-1501-1502-1503-1504-1505-1506-1507-1508-1509-1510-1511-1512-1513-1514-1515-1516-1517-1518-1519-1520-1521-1522-1523-1524-1525-1526-1527-1528-1529-1530-1531-1532-1533-1534-1535-1536-1537-1538-1539-1540-1541-1542-1543-1544-1545-1546-1547-1548-1549-1550-1551-1552-1553-1554-1555-1556-1557-1558-1559-1560-1561-1562-1563-1564-1565-1566-1567-1568-1569-1570-1571-1572-1573-1574-1575-1576-1577-1578-1579-1580-1581-1582-1583-1584-1585-1586-1587-1588-1589-1590-1591-1592-1593-1594-1595-1596-1597-1598-1599-1600-1601-1602-1603-1604-1605-1606-1607-1608-1609-1610-1611-1612-1613-1614-1615-1616-1617-1618-1619-1620-1621-1622-1623-1624-1625-1626-1627-1628-1629-1630-1631-1632-1633-1634-1635-1636-1637-1638-1639-1640-1641-1642-1643-1644-1645-1646-1647-1648-1649-1650-1651-1652-1653-1654-1655-1656-1657-1658-1659-1660-1661-1662-1663-1664-1665-1666-1667-1668-1669-1670-1671-1672-1673-1674-1675-1676-1677-1678-1679-1680-1681-1682-1683-1684-1685-1686-1687-1688-1689-1690-1691-1692-1693-1694-1695-1696-1697-1698-1699-1700-1701-1702-1703-1704-1705-1706-1707-1708-1709-1710-1711-1712-1713-1714-1715-1716-1717-1718-1719-1720-1721-1722-1723-1724-1725-1726-1727-1728-1729-1730-1731-1732-1733-1734-1735-1736-1737-1738-1739-1740-1741-1742-1743-1744-1745-1746-1747-1748-1749-1750-1751-1752-1753-1754-1755-1756-1757-1758-1759-1760-1761-1762-1763-1764-1765-1766-1767-1768-1769-1770-1771-1772-1773-1774-1775-1776-1777-1778-1779-1780-1781-1782-1783-1784-1785-1786-1787-1788-1789-1790-1791-1792-1793-1794-1795-1796-1797-1798-1799-1800-1801-1802-1803-1804-1805-1806-1807-1808-1809-1810-1811-1812-1813-1814-1815-1816-1817-1818-1819-1820-1821-1822-1823-1824-1825-1826-1827-1828-1829-1830-1831-1832-1833-1834-1835-1836-1837-1838-1839-1840-1841-1842-1843-1844-1845-1846-1847-1848-1849-1850-1851-1852-1853-1854-1855-1856-1857-1858-1859-1860-1861-1862-1863-1864-1865-1866-1867-1868-1869-1870-1871-1872-1873-1874-1875-1876-1877-1878-1879-1880-1881-1882-1883-1884-1885-1886-1887-1888-1889-1890-1891-1892-1893-1894-1895-1896-1897-1898-1899-1900-1901-1902-1903-1904-1905-1906-1907-1908-1909-1910-1911-1912-1913-1914-1915-1916-1917-1918-1919-1920-1921-1922-1923-1924-1925-1926-1927-1928-1929-1930-1931-1932-1933-1934-1935-1936-1937-1938-1939-1940-1941-1942-1943-1944-1945-1946-1947-1948-1949-1950-1951-1952-1953-1954-1955-1956-1957-1958-1959-1960-1961-1962-1963-1964-1965-1966-1967-1968-1969-1970-1971-1972-1973-1974-1975-1976-1977-1978-1979-1980-1981-1982-1983-1984-1985-1986-1987-1988-1989-1990-1991-1992-1993-1994-1995-1996-1997-1998-1999-2000-2001-2002-2003-2004-2005-2006-2007-2008-2009-2010-2011-2012-2013-2014-2015-2016-2017-2018-2019-2020-2021-2022-2023-2024-2025-2026-2027-2028-2029-2030-2031-2032-2033-2034-2035-2036-2037-2038-2039-2040-2041-2042-2043-2044-2045-2046-2047-2048-2049-2050-2051-2052-2053-2054-2055-2056-2057-2058-2059-2060-2061-2062-2063-2064-2065-2066-2067-2068-2069-2070-2071-2072-2073-2074-2075-2076-2077-2078-2079-2080-2081-2082-2083-2084-2085-2086-2087-2088-2089-2090-2091-2092-2093-2094-2095-2096-2097-2098-2099-2100-2101-2102-2103-2104-2105-2106-2107-2108-2109-2110-2111-2112-2113-2114-2115-2116-2117-2118-2119-2120-2121-2122-2123-2124-2125-2126-2127-2128-2129-2130-2131-2132-2133-2134-2135-2136-2137-2138-2139-2140-2141-2142-2143-2144-2145-2146-2147-2148-2149-2150-2151-2152-2153-2154-2155-2156-2157-2158-2159-2160-2161-2162-2163-2164-2165-2166-2167-2168-2169-2170-2171-2172-2173-2174-2175-2176-2177-2178-2179-2180-2181-2182-2183-2184-2185-2186-2187-2188-2189-2190-2191-2192-2193-2194-2195-2196-2197-2198-2199-2200-2201-2202-2203-2204-2205-2206-2207-2208-2209-2210-2211-2212-2213-2214-2215-2216-2217-2218-2219-2220-2221-22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also on page 25

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Press Papers Ltd is the agent for six Scandinavian paper mills and has annual sales in the UK in excess of GBP 100 million. The head office is in Mayfair, London, and a regional office is situated in Edinburgh, Scotland. The company, with a total of 37 employees, is now looking for a

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SECRETARY/PA EC3

A Secretary/

French lorrymen are heroes of miners' rally

By David Cross

In the end, it was not Mr Arthur Scargill, the British miners' leader, but 30 French lorry drivers in their jeans and leather jackets who stole the show in the Kent coalfield where the biggest international rally so far in support of the seven months strike took place at the weekend.

To the considerable disappointment of the 800 members of France's Communist-led union, the CGT, who had ventured briefly on to British soil to hand over a huge consignment of provisions for the families of striking miners, the National Union of Mineworkers' President was in London at the Acat talks.

Absent, too, was Mr Norman Willis, the TUC General Secretary, who had planned to join the meeting in a packed welfare centre at the Snowdown colliery.

But the nonappearance of such luminaries failed to dampen the enthusiasm of the ranks of French dockers, steel workers, coal miners, and firemen who had driven in a mile long convoy of nearly 200 lorries and cars from Paris to Aylesham in Kent through the coalfields of northern France.

As the lorry drivers paraded across the stage in front of them, they rose from their seats chanting victory slogans and waving flags and clenched fists in the smoke-filled air.

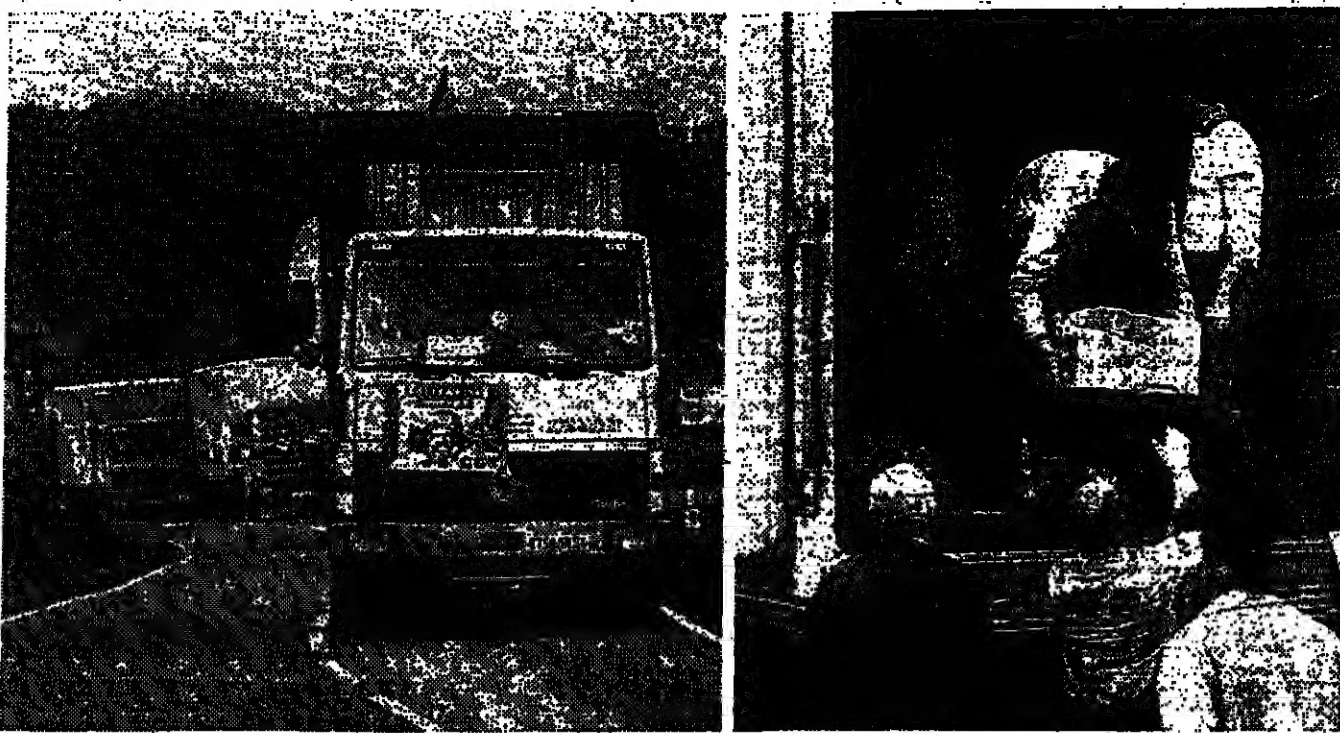
It was left to Mr Malcolm Pitt, the Kent miners' leader, to thank them for their generosity in donating more than 400 tons of staples like flour, tea, sugar and potatoes and a cheque for nearly £60,000 to a cause which he said had become a shining symbol of the "international working class movement."

The lorries, which were impounded overnight by the British Customs authorities at Dover, were unloaded yesterday for their contents to be distributed among mining communities.

In his Aylesham rally speech Mr Pitt, who had joined the convoy when it set off from Paris on Friday, omitted much of the Marxist rhetoric he had used at similar rallies in the French capital and in Calais. There he had told CGT members in faltering French that Mrs Thatcher was "the parrot of President Reagan, pecking on his shoulder and preaching the same militarist and imperialist policies."

"There is blood on British coal," he shouted, to chants of "Thatcher is a fascist" from among the crowd.

Alongside him on a platform bedecked with French and British flags next to a shabby warehouse overshadowed by huge cranes on the Calais



The French convoy moves towards Aylesham, Kent, (left) where the lorries are unloaded by Kent miners



M Krasucki, CGT general secretary, speaking at the Aylesham rally. On his right is Mr Pitt, Kent miners' leader. Right: Smiles and flags from the CGT men

docks, M Henri Krasucki, the CGT General Secretary, was equally critical of the British authorities. "The police have formed special repressive brigades," he claimed, "to unleash violence in the mining communities."

He added: "British miners no longer have enough food to eat, enough money to clothe their newborn babies or to bury their dead."

French miners and their

families who stood outside their front doors to gaze at the long procession of CGT vehicles lumbering through their struggling villages north of Arras, were fed similar propaganda from a loudspeaker van. "Children between the ages of 2 and 14 are dying of hunger..." Mrs Thatcher has cut off family allowances for striking miners... the British struggle against pit closures is the same fight we waging to save French

coal pits," the disembodied voice intoned.

Outside the townhall of each mining village with names like Bully les Mines and Billy le Montigny, the convoy stopped briefly to present the local mayor with a gift medal to commemorate the CGT's generosity.

Copies of the medal, complete with red, white and blue ribbons, were later put on sale to union members at about £4 a

time as they munched sausages and bags of chips in a carnival atmosphere on the quayside at Calais.

Irrigated by a rousing chorus of the Red Flag and three cheers for the striking miners, the convoy of lorries then drove on to the ferry for the 20 mile trip to Dover.

Before returning home, M Krasucki promised: "We shall be back to make it an unforgettable Christmas for your children."

Hattersley and Owen put focus on jobs

Continued from page 1

employ low-skilled workers. A worker earning £100 would bring the firm a net credit.

Dr Owen said such a choice would transform the employment prospects of low-skilled workers, discourage firms from giving in to excessive wage claims and discourage unions from making them fear for bankrupting their employers.

Another part of the restructuring could be the abolition of employers' contributions for any additional employees taken on.

The other key elements of Dr Owen's strategy were:

● A big expansion of the community programme, increasing to 350,000 the places available for the long-term unemployed, and a two-year package of training and work experience for the under 25s.

● An expansion of the personal social services programme including home help to give 50,000 more women part-time jobs.

● Spending of £1,000m on major construction and road programmes; an increase of £700m on housing building an modernisation at a net cost of £6,400 per job could create 110,000 new jobs in two years.

● Expansion of the loan guarantee scheme to help small firms start up and expand, and broadening of the enterprise allowance scheme.

Mr Hattersley, delivering the Abernethy Memorial lecture in Redditch, said that a Labour Government could put Britain back to work but only if it first understood and then surmounted substantial obstacles.

To overcome balance of payments constraints caused by the decline before the end of the decade of the North Sea oil revenues it would be necessary to increase non-oil exports.

Mr Hattersley argued that although "some adjustment" in the value of sterling might be necessary it would be unwise to place all faith in that remedy.

To overcome the availability of investment constraint, Labour had to accept that it needed a high profit economy, with the profits used for productive purposes, Mr Hattersley said.

Much as with the new capital world have to come from private sources. But private profits must not be the preserve of owners and managers; workers must be given a vested interest in their enterprises, not just a share of the profit but a direct influence on company policy.

Letter from Sri Lanka

Ethnic strife is no storm in a teacup

Trimmed as prim as privet, fields of neat tea bushes hold to the sides of the mountains no less verdant than a Rhineland weinberg. The tea leaves, the top two leaves and the newest shoot on each stem, are harvested once a week. The bushes are weeded once a month.

Sri Lanka's principal export, thanks to an astonishing acceleration in auction prices, is more than making good the damage done to the country's economy by the recent ethnic violence.

But where there is tea in Sri Lanka, there are Tamils. The colonising Europeans, looking for a return on their investment, came upon the notion of growing first coffee, which sickened and died, and then tea, which flourished.

The cheerful Sinhalese wanted no more than to work their own land and let moist nature provide them with sufficient crops to feed themselves.

Across the 25 mile Palk Strait in the Madras Presidency - fortunately under the same ownership at the time, - were teeming throngs of desperate landless coolies, prepared to put up with all kinds of discomfort in return for a chance to earn a living.

They were Tamils, which seemed additionally convenient for 11 or 12 per cent of the population of Ceylon were already Tamil, so they would fit in easily.

In fact, these Indian Tamils were not like their cousins in the north and east of the island, the Jaffna and Batticaloa Tamils who claimed to have been on the island at least as long as the Sinhalese, and aspired to middleclassness.

The plantation Tamils were mostly from a lowly caste, with little or no aspiration to education or much else.

But to the Sinhalese chauvinists they were Tamils all the same, and they suffered from the disabilities increasingly inflicted on the minority race.

One of the earliest acts of the newly independent island state was to remove the possibility that the Indian Tamils could become a force in the new country's politics. They denied them citizenship.

Hundreds of thousands of people who had been born in Ceylon, and whose fathers had been born in Ceylon, suddenly became stateless, for they had no claim on Sri Lanka's India.

Later agreements between India and Sri Lanka did something to alleviate the problem, but there are still 90,000 stateless Tamils in the tea gardens, and one of the products of the current round table conference has been an agreement on their future.

In fact, despite Sinhalese dislike of all Tamils, President Jayewardene has been quite skilful at separating the plantation Tamils from the Jaffna Tamils.

The Ceylon Workers' Congress, a combination of trade union, representing the estate workers, and political party, was one of the original constituents of the Tamil United Liberation Front, but now is a supporter of the Government. Mr. Savumalai-moorthy Thondaman, the congress leader, is in the Cabinet as Minister for Rural Industrial Development, the first Indian Tamil in government since independence.

"Separation is not going to solve our problems," Mr Thondaman said in his ministerial office last week. "Our problems are quite different from the Tamils in the north and east."

The Indian Tamil preoccupation, given a solution to the problem of statelessness, comes down to straight job demands.

The estate workers still live in "line rooms", which they suspect were named after the lines to which the British tethered their horses. A family, sometimes two families, will share one windowless room 10ft by 12ft with a smoky kitchen built into a smaller verandah.

They feel exploited by the estate management. Nothing has changed since the days when the gardens were privately owned," said a trade union organization here.

Mr Thondaman, indeed, recently led a successful strike against the Government.

Similar firmness was shown over police harassment of young Tamils while looking for extremist Tamil Tigers.

When 14 young men were arrested for questioning, 20,000 estate workers in the district stopped work. "The men were freed. 'Don't create terrorism in the plantations in the way you created terrorism in the north,'" Mr Thondaman urged the Government. "Don't make martyrs here."

Michael Hamlyn

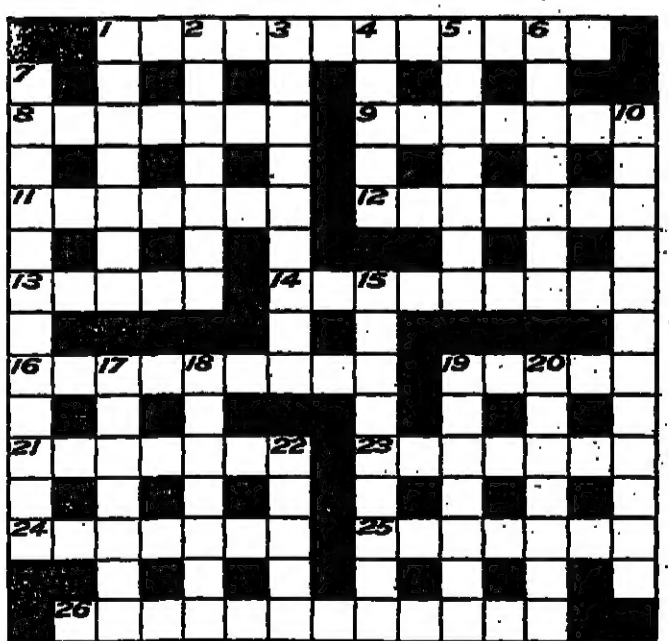
THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements
Princess Anne, patron of the Riding for the Disabled Association, opens the Avon Riding Centre for the Disabled, Henbury, Bristol, 10.40, and then visits Red Maids School, Bristol, 12.30 and later, she goes to Katherine, Lady Berkeley's School, Dursley, Gloucestershire to celebrate their Sexcentenary, 3.30.
Princess Margaret, as patron, attends the opening of an exhibition of Modern Masters from the Thyssen-Bornemisza Collection at the Royal Academy of Arts, 7.30.

The Duchess of Gloucester attends a film premier on the Under Diagnosis and Treatment of Childhood Asthma at Barrington House, Gresham Street, EC2, 7.
New exhibitions
Poet and painter Allan Ramsay, Father and Son: National Library of Scotland, George IV Bridge, Edinburgh, Mon to Fri 9.30 to 5. Sat 9.30 to 1. (ends Jan 31).
Imagines of Childhood in conjunction with Bristol Festival for Children: David Cross Gallery, 3a Boyes Ave, Clifton Bristol, Mon-Sat 9.30 to 6, (ends Nov 3).

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,561



- ACROSS**
- See copper married by this surrogate (5).
 - Admission of a theologian made Gaden rejoice (7).
 - Form of address two commanders found a blow? (7).
 - The more reckless chaps in punt cause confusion (12).
 - Devil, saint, turncoat, or just one airing a grievance? (12).
 - Cried out, having got right into River Dee we hear (9).
 - The mode set by leaving Libya in plenty of time? (7).
 - Stimulate one new feature of church architecture (7).
 - Refuse to be carried away by this public acrobat? (7).
 - Adapt a stove, by the sound of it? (7).
 - Love somehow to complete the puzzle (5).
- DOWN**
- Former wife pretended, to be without shelter (7).
 - Start ninth year, say, with three leaflets (7).
 - It involved illumination for Lorenzo's bank (M.O. of Venice) (10).

The Solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 16,560 will appear next Saturday

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 10

Nature notes

The autumn flocks of flocks begin to be more noticeable as birds that breed in Britain are joined by visitors from Europe. Twittering parties of siskins and redpolls feed on the birch and alder seeds, at present they are mostly in the treescapes, but as the seeds fall, the birds will go down to the ground with them.

Bramblings are arriving from Scandinavia, some of them fly straight across the North Sea from Norway to Scotland. They go wherever the beech-mast is most abundant, usually linking up with chaffinches. Two sparrows are flocking in the fields: they can be told from house-sparrows by their chestnut, not grey, caps, and their black cheek-patches.

With the weather staying mild, many late summer flowers are still to be seen in patches - ragwort, rosebay willow-herb, applewort, tormentil and bristly ox-tongue among them. On the plane-trees, the turning leaves form a rich pattern of bright browns and yellows, dancing between them are the hard seed-balls, pale green with bright-green spikes. On the evergreen holly, the narrow green acorns still adhere to their small cups. A common fungus now is the weeping widow, with webs of black spores hanging from its brown cap.

Roads
Midlands: A148: Between Kings Lynn and Fakenham, temporary signals at Hillingdon, Norfolk, A43: Between Northampton and Kettering, by-pass construction at Kettering, Northants, A435: Between Birmingham and Evesham, M43 construction work near Wythall, Hereford and Worcester.

North: A534: Crews Road Haslington, east of Crewe, sewer work temporary lights. M6: Resurfacing work on southbound carriageway. Work between junction 32 (Preston) and 33 (Lancaster), contraflow on northbound. A59: Construction work between Borrowby, and south of Thirsk, Lancashire.

Scotland: A82: Between Greenhead Road and Garske Road, Dumfries, resurfacing, westbound carriageway closed, two way on eastbound. A85: In Lochawe village, footway construction and construction of retaining walls.

A697: One mile east of Greenlaw, edge widening.

Information supplied by the AA.

The pound

	Buys	Sells
Australia \$	1.48	1.49
Austria Sch	27.75	27.80
Belgium Fr	89.50	89.55
Canada C	1.15	1.16
Denmark Kr	14.32	14.35
Finland Mk	11.18	11.20
France F	12.05	12.08
Germany DM	2.36	2.37
Greece Dr	16.00	16.05
Italy Lit	201.00	201.50
Japan Yen	110.00	110.50
Netherlands Gld	4.43	4.45
Portugal Esc	200.00	200.50
Spain Ptas	166.64	166.68
Switzerland Fr	2.20	2.21
Sweden Kr	11.00	11.05
UK £	1.00	1.00
Yugoslavia Dnr	286.00	286.50

The papers

There is a realization in the wake of the Brighton bomb which should bring no comfort to the IRA. The Sunday Times said yesterday. "There is a growing awareness in London and Dublin that the IRA is the common enemy and that whatever separates the British and the Irish is paper-thin compared to the gulf between both peoples and the IRA." The most encouraging words in the aftermath were those of the Irish prime minister, Dr Garret FitzGerald, whose sorrow was matched by his determination to bring Britain and Dublin closer together.

But the paper concludes that we now have seen the last of the old-style party conferences, in which the opponents of the government's conduct of the miners' strike are part of the irrational forces in our society that blow up people in their beds, or that an angry picket who is a member of the House of Commons is to be equated with a cold blooded IRA killer.

"New safeguards must be introduced at the expense of the easy-going atmosphere of the past," the Mail on Sunday said. "At the very least, Cabinet ministers must be dispersed to different hotels and not huddled under one roof."

Bond winners
Winning numbers in the weekly draw: Premium Bond prizes are £100,000: 20VP: 743736, winner lives in West Midlands; £30,000: 48L: 678393 (Surrey); £25,000: 81N: 719353 (Gloucestershire).

Portfolios
The Times Portfolio rules are as follows:
1. The Times Portfolio is a free, fortnightly publication.
2. The Times Portfolio is a free, fortnightly publication.
3. The Times Portfolio is a free, fortnightly publication.

Lighting up time
London 5.37 pm to 6.08 am
Brighton 6.47 pm to 7.08 am
Edinburgh 6.42 pm to 7.08 am
Preston 7.01 pm to 7.18 am

Yesterday
Temperatures at midday yesterday: C, about 1, F, 34.
Brighton 10.0
London 10.0
Manchester 10.0
Preston 10.0
Sheffield 10.0
Sunderland 10.0
Tyneside 10.0
Wolverhampton 10.0
Wrexham 10.0

London
Saturday: Temp: max 8 am to 6 pm, 16C (61F); min 6 pm to 8 am, 12C (54F); humidity: 6 pm, 72 per cent; Rain 24hr to 6 pm, Trace, Sun 24hr to 6 pm, nil. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1027.0 millibars rising.

Highest and lowest
Saturday: Highest day-temp: Newcastle upon Tyne, 16C (61F); lowest day-temp: London, 12C (54F); highest night-temp: Newcastle upon Tyne, 10C (50F); lowest night-temp: London, 8C (46F).

Times Information Service
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Weather forecast

Pressure will be high to SE of the UK.
6am to midnight

London, SE, Can S, E, Can N, NE England, E Anglia, Midlands, Channel Islands: Early fog clearing, sunny periods, wind SW, light, max temp 17C (63F).

SW, NW England, Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man: Fog patches clearing, sunny or bright intervals, wind S moderate, max temp 17C (63F).

Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth: Sunny intervals, dry, light or moderate, max temp 17C (63F).

SW Scotland, Glasgow, Can Highlands, N Ireland: Fog patches clearing, sunny or bright intervals, wind S moderate, max temp 16C (61F).

NE, NW Scotland, Argyll: Rather cloudy, a little drizzle at first, brighter later, wind S moderate, max temp 14C (57F).

Orkney, Shetland: Rain and drizzle at first, brighter later, wind S, strong SW moderate, max temp 11C (52F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Wednesday: Most places starting dry with sunny intervals, rain moving into N Ireland and Scotland on Tuesday, reaching England and Wales Wednesday.

Wind: PASADENA S North Sea, English Channel, S Dover West winds light, fair, visibility moderate with coastal fog patches, sea smooth, S. Gull's Head, Irish Sea: Wind moderate or strong, mainly fair, visibility moderate or poor, sea smooth or moderate.

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